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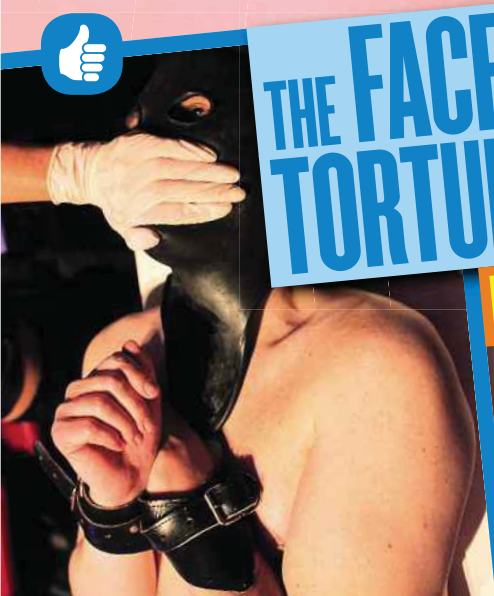
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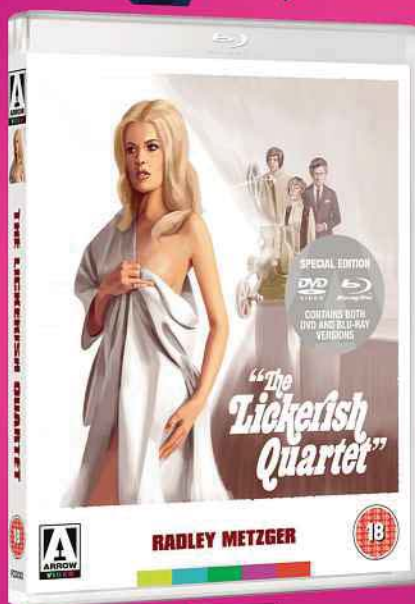
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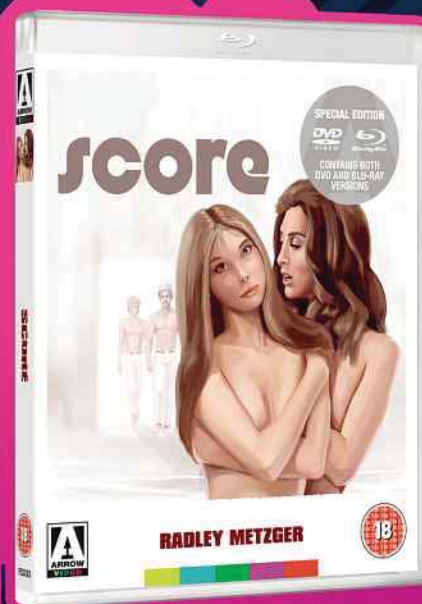
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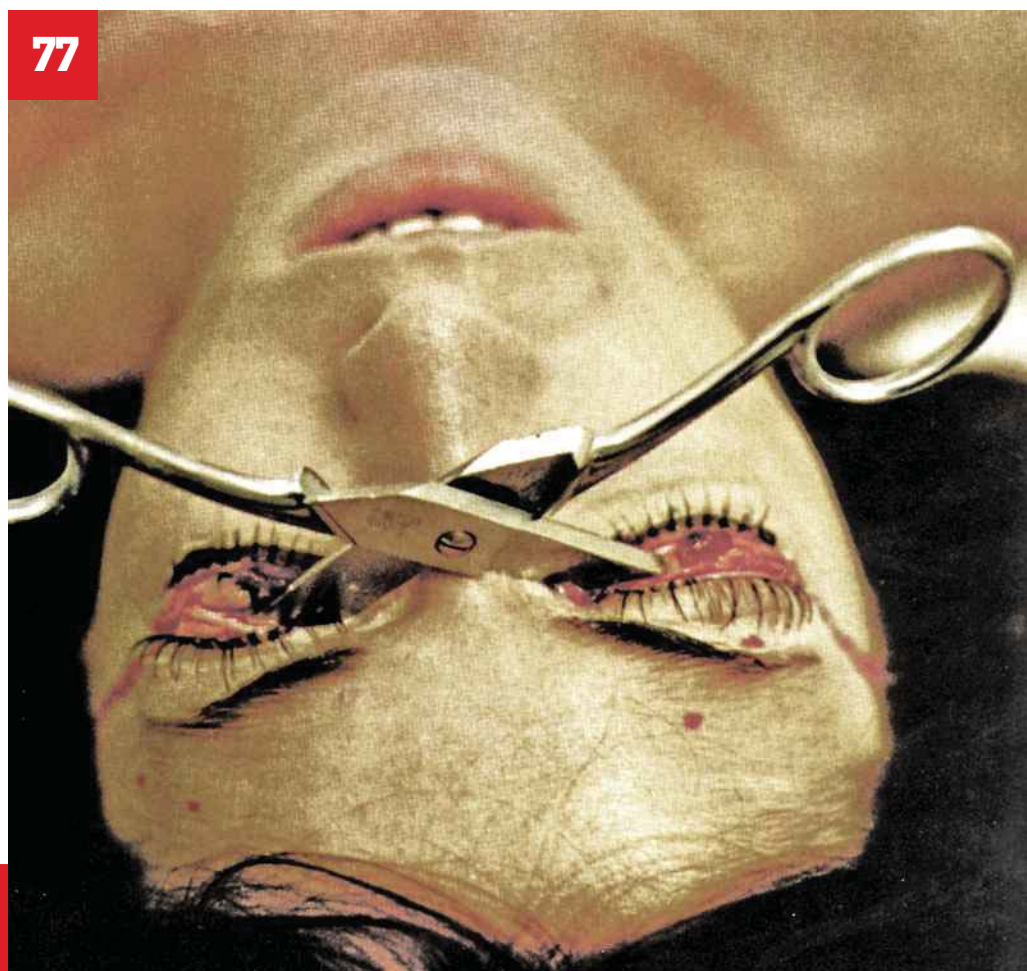
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EDITED BY TOM BROADBENT

PHOTO ASSAULT

THE WORLD'S MOST
EXTREME
CLOSE-UPS!

BRAIN FOOD

INDONESIA Yes, this an oversized brain. But, no, it isn't real... sorry. Instead, this is an art installation in the small town of Nitiprayan, which is famed for its cultural heritage and has been nicknamed 'art village' because of the large number of artists living and working there. This piece, titled 'Planting Brain', is the work of local artist Suharyanto Tri, and is part of an outdoor sculpture exhibition titled *Last Harvest*. Although bizarre and kind of fun, there's a political message behind this hulking grey matter, and it was designed to raise awareness about the rapid loss of agricultural land as Indonesia's population grows and there's increased demand for homes, roads and factories.

PICTURE: DWI OBLO / REUTERS





VISUAL HOOK

CHINA An accident while clearing litter left Wang Chenggen with a metal hook embedded in his skull. Wang, from Harbin, Heilongjiang Province, slipped while poking through rubbish with the hook, and he fell onto the curved spike which slammed 5cm into his eye socket. Miraculously, Wang's eye wasn't damaged in the incident and doctors were able to save his vision.

PICTURES: PHOTO BY HAPQUIRKY CHINA
NEWS / REX FEATURES





A WEIGHT OFF HIS SHOULDERS

CHINA Since childhood, 44-year-old Xiong was used to finding small bumps growing on his body. So when he found a lump on the back of his neck in November 2012, he didn't think to seek medical advice. Big mistake. Within weeks, the lump had ballooned into the massive tumour you see here, which made those around Xiong joke that he'd "grown two heads". When he eventually went to hospital, surgeons discovered that Xiong was suffering from neurofibromatosis, a disorder that causes nerve tissue to grow tumors and leave bumps under the skin. The procedure to remove the tumour was risky as it was chock-full of blood vessels that could have caused hemorrhaging, but thankfully the procedure was a success and Xiong is expected to make a full recovery.

PICTURE: HAP / QUIRKY CHINA NEWS / REX FEATURES





ROAD HOG PILE UP

GERMANY This trip was never going to have a happy ending for its passengers... When a truck containing 650 pigs overturned on its way to a slaughterhouse near Greifswald, the squealing livestock were unceremoniously tipped onto the busy highway. And while this was a perfect opportunity for some of the hogs to curly-tail it out of there to (almost certainly short-lived) safety, most of the animals died during the freak accident. Unfortunately for the emergency services, the task of clearing the bruised corpses fell on local firefighters. *Bizarre* wonders if dinner in Greifswald fire station that night was gammon steaks that had 'fallen off the back of a lorry'...

PICTURE: STEFAN SAUER/PA PHOTOS

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GORE MASTER WINS OBSCENITY TRIAL

Landmark horror case ends happily for Canadian filmmaker Remy Couture

IT COULD HAVE BEEN A CHAPTER

from the 1980s video nasty hysteria – and makes the recent UK furore surrounding *The Human Centipede 2* seem like a minor playground scuffle – but Canadian special effects master Remy Couture has finally been cleared of obscenity charges after his serial killer project, *Inner Depravity*, was deemed by a Canadian court as having artistic merit in line with other horror works.

The online-only series, created in 2005 to resemble a fictional diary, follows, in Couture's words, a "masked maniac torturing and murdering people in extremely heinous manners, such as mutilation, cannibalism, sexual assault and necrophilia". Comprised of short films and photoshoots where the victims are almost exclusively female, the staged scenes are so horrifically brutal and realistic that, in 2006, two site visitors from Austria and Germany thought that actual murders had taken place.

In October 2009, following alleged pressure from Interpol, Canadian police arrested Couture on charges of creating, possessing and distributing obscene material. But it took more than three years for the trial to reach court.

The 35-year-old filmmaker was finally acquitted of all charges in December 2012 following a trial that lasted two weeks. Had he been found guilty, Couture could have faced a prison sentence and a criminal record.

Despite the extremity of his material, Couture always expressed exasperation at the charges and continued to battle for

freedom of artistic expression, arguing that *Inner Depravity* was conceived as a showcase for his special effects talents.

"Having researched the devious nature of serial killers, I simply wanted to reproduce their grotesque vision through visual diaries and short films," he tells *Bizarre*. "By entering the website, you become a spectator to this psychotic theatre. I was intent on showcasing my extreme special effects in recreating these horrific scenes – no more, no less. The victims were female because the majority of serial killers are heterosexual males and their victims female."

Like other horror industry insiders – many of whom regard Couture's trial as a landmark case – the *Inner Depravity* director believes that a 'guilty' outcome would have been a serious threat for the arts and film industry in general.

"Imagine if a government can decide what is considered artistic or not," he says. "They could turn a work of art into a criminal act just because someone sees it as inappropriate or in bad taste. And in doing so, they could send its creator to prison. The repercussions of the charges against me could have become a reality, despite my work being complete fiction."

Couture describes the outcome of the trial as a "tremendous relief", and says he has no regrets about creating *Inner Depravity* as his intentions "were never criminal". Images from the series are once again safe to publish – and some of them can be seen on these pages. Anyone interested in Couture's work may also want to get hold of the documentary by Frederick Maheux, titled *ART/CRIME*, which is now available on DVD and includes *Inner Depravity* films and photos in its bonus content.

However, the ordeal has left Couture jaded and penniless. "My first priority is to find peace of mind and try to get my affairs back in order," he says. "But the trial ruined me financially, and including the lawyer fees, I now have a \$35,000 (£22,113) debt."

If you want to learn more, or would like to support Remy in his cause, visit Supportremy.com



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

SHOULD CINEMA AND ART EVER
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BURLESQUE BEAUTY!

New book celebrates the cheeky charm of British showgirls

TODAY, BRITISH BURLESQUE IS

stronger than ever. Although the scene is tainted by a handful of two-bit strippers jumping on this sequined bandwagon, the burlesque community in the UK currently sparkles with some of the world's finest performance talent, and is helping to set the agenda for burlesque across this fair planet.

To celebrate the rise and rise of British burlesque, scene starlet Sensu'Elle has penned a new book, *Burlesque Beauty*, that's dedicated to every performer who's working hard to preserve this vintage and exotic form of entertainment. We caught up with Sensu'Elle for a natter about her debut tome...

When did you start performing burlesque?

I've been performing and producing for over three years, and teaching burlesque for over 12 months. My appearances are primarily in staged shows, or at smaller intimate or private bookings across the south of England. My biggest show to date was at the Bournemouth Tattoo Convention. I've also performed at burlesque cabaret club Volupté in London, and I'd describe my style as traditional and elegant.

How did the book come about?

I was invited to co-author *Burlesque Beauty* two years ago by Hampshire-based photographer and graphic designer, Christopher Jones, alongside his author colleague Brian Matthews.

But I was then asked to actually *appear* in the book as one of their eight featured artistes. Chris is a talented photographer, and when we first met he'd already taken some lovely shots at a number of burlesque shows in Hampshire, and felt he wanted to produce a photo-led book looking at the revival of the British burlesque scene.

As well as being a beautiful book, *Burlesque Beauty* will also teach readers a lot about the wonderful UK-based international performers we've photographed and interviewed, including Domino Barbeau, Khandie Khisses, Amber Topaz, Anna Fur Laxis, Ally Katte, Mysti Vine and Carrie-Ann O'Dell. They'll also find excellent professional tips and insights into this beautiful artform, and perhaps be inspired to take up burlesque. Who knows, one day our readers may become professional performers in their own right!



Who are the most exciting British acts, and where can readers see the best?

You'd be forgiven for thinking that London was the beating heart of UK burlesque. However, outside the capital there's an incredible burlesque scene that's very much alive and well, with many provincial towns and cities across the country now hosting regular shows.

British Burlesque is bursting into life everywhere you look, and there are fabulous artistes of all ages and levels of expertise performing regularly across the UK – and because of this, I can't pick a favourite performer! But I love it when I come across another performer I've not been aware of.

How do you see the British burlesque scene developing over the coming years?

The revitalised burlesque scene in the UK is living, breathing and ever-changing. I feel that burlesque will stay true to its 100 year-old history, but continue to evolve in presentation as more talented performers put their own personal spin on long-held traditions.

Burlesque Beauty is published by Tomahawk Films, costs £14.95, and is available from Amazon.co.uk

FROM ULTRA VIXEN TO HORROR ICON!

How Collette Von Tora is setting the big screen ablaze

COLLETTE VON TORA, ONE OF BIZARRE'S most devoted readers and winner of our 2010 Ultra Vixens competition, is set to make her big screen debut in an upcoming horror flick.

Slasher House is the second film to be directed by MJ Dixon – who also made the gruesome *Creepsville* in 2009, which will hopefully see a proper release this year – and tells the shocking story of a girl trapped inside a house with some of the most notorious serial killers of all time.

To find out more about the film, and Collette's silver screen debut, we caught up with MJ Dixon for a quick chat...

What is Collette's role in *Slasher House*... other than a huge knife in her chest?

Collette features in a very important flashback in the film that involves one of the main cast, and involves her gruesome death at the hands of a serial killer named Thorn.

How did Collette come to be involved in the movie?

I first met Collette on *Creepsville* – she came down to the set a few times with one of the main cast members, and we got on quite well. She auditioned for the role of lead character Red in *Slasher House*, but by then I was almost sure that I wanted actress Eleanor James for the part. I liked Collette's attitude, though, so I asked her if she'd be line producer on *Slasher House*, and also play a different role in the film. I'd say her best quality is that she's a fantastic screamer – as you'll see and hear in the movie!

Are you planning to use Collette in your future productions?

Yes, of course. Collette's scene that's told in flashback is part of much bigger story that's going into production this year and, with a few tweaks to the character here and there, we should see her return in our next production, *Thorn*.

How did you come up with the idea for *Slasher House*?

I got the idea after being quite disappointed with the movie *Freddy Vs. Jason*, and kind of decided to through my own spin on the killer versus killer idea.

We understand the movie was made on a shoestring budget – how did you manage to make the film on such little money?

I can't say how much it cost, but it was not a lot, and was raised by combination of crowd-funding and personal investment from various people. I think the only reason we pulled it off was because we truly believed that we could. Resourcefulness was a huge part of it, but also smart thinking and adapting the best we could made sure we got the job done. Once you give up your 'luxuries' on a film set, money goes a lot further!

Is *Slasher House* gory? Can you reveal some details on the bloodiest scenes?

Well, as I constantly said on set, "We're not making *Goosebumps* here!" I can't really mention any specific scenes as it will give too much away, but I can say that we get heads



rolling and arms chopped off, along with impaling, heads sawn open, electrocution, drills to the head, and various other horrors. I tried to keep the gore heavy without going over the top, but there's an awful lot in there!

What's next for Mycho Entertainment?

This year should see our first film, *Creepsville*, finished and get some kind of release. As well as *Thorn* going into production, for release early next year, we have a Christmas horror going into production at the end of 2013, something we've wanted to do for a long while. I'm after the mantle 'busiest man in horror' this year, so we'll see how that goes!

To find out more take a trip to Mycho.co.uk, and [Facebook.com/slasherhouse](https://www.facebook.com/slasherhouse)

PICTURES: MJ DIXON



Six pages of the sexiest alt.models,
freakiest art and best body mods!

HOTSHOTS > GIRLS





HATS OFF TO HATTON

The Hollie and the I.V. Get an intravenous shot of HOT from Welsh nurse and gorgepot Hollie Hatton

Bizarre is really glad that the Cardiff-based, carbon-based, glorious femin-entity splashed across these pages is called 'Hollie Hatton' and not 'Sarah Hatton' or 'Suzie Hatton' – otherwise her name could be abbreviated to 'S. Hatton'... "Argh, that'd be horrendous!" grimaces Hollie. "I've been a registered nurse for the last seven years, and I once had to make an announcement on the Tannoy to call a patient called 'Mr. Ming Cock'. My colleagues thought it was hilarious."

Speaking of cocks, Hollie collects Vivienne Westwood keyrings with miniature dangly penises on them, as well as shoes, groaning, "I have over 100 pairs and can't buy less than three new sets of heels at a time; it's like some kind of illness." She also hoards religious relics, despite being an atheist, and has around two dozen statues of Jesus and The Virgin Mary at home. Praise be! "I run a store selling vintage items, so I find a lot of my Jesuses while searching for stock," she reveals. "Wherever I travel for modelling shoots, I make time to rummage in the local antiques markets and bric-a-brac shops and hunt for treasures. I'm off to New York soon, so I wonder what I'll uncover in the States?"

Quite the entrepreneur, Hollie additionally heads up a clothing brand called Broken Girls Club; have a butchers on Facebook to see the clobber being worn by recent *Bizarre* cover girl Cervena Fox (no relation to our Alix) and alt.hottie Elle Richie (no relation to Lionel). Hollie Hatton herself is no relation to boxer Ricky, which she reckons is "gutting, because then I'd be super-hard. I got into a good few scuffles back in my school days; all fights bar one happened because I was sticking up for my friends, though I still got in deep shit for them. Ahh, teen years! My parents told me never to start a fight, but that if someone hit you first, smack 'em back!" We wonder if she'll give the same advice to her own bubba

– Hollie's a hot mama. "The grossest thing I've ever done has to be childbirth," she muses. "Hands down, it was the most amazing, incredible, memorable experience, yet the grossest at the same time." Yeah, we've heard popping out a sprog can be kinda... squelchy... yet you'd never know she'd given birth from looking at Hollie's incredible figure. We hope she goes from strength to strength in her modelling career – not least because it seems criminal that she hasn't appeared in a certain tabloid beneath the headline: 'The Sun has got its Hatton'.
See Hattonnes more of Hollie at Holliehatton.com and spy on her Twitter @hollie85419521

WORDS ALIX FOX

PHOTOS ROWAN MURRAY.
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HOTSHOTS > DANK ART

THE HILLIERS ARE ALIVE...

...with the sound of moose-ic! *Bizarre* talks antlers, meditation and nuns with artist Dan Hillier

WORDS **ALIX FOX**
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DAN HILLIER

Bizarre first became aware of the work of Dan Hillier thanks to a Facebook competition to win one of his prints, entitled 'Golden Stag'. It depicts a bedraggled groom-to-be, handcuffed to a lamppost, drenched in luminous ochre wee-wee. We jest! It's a metallic image of a dapper gent with a deer's head instead of a man's – a classic example of Hillier's style, which mashes up Victorian etchings, engravings, woodcuts, and illustrations then reworks them digitally alongside traditional old dip nib pen and ink.

Hillier has incorporated "found elements" in his work since his degree days, when he began making collages of photocopied material. This progressed to him trawling car boot sales and charity shops to salvage scraps of retro advertisements, anatomy books and encyclopaedias, and remixing them into images that he says are "fun yet dark, sinister in a humorous way, and that tap into my feelings about how we present ourselves in the world." Team *Bizarre* regularly present ourselves down at Asda with decapitated elk bonces jammed over our faces. How does Hillier know? It's like he's been *watching us*...

THE FRUITS OF HIS LABOUR

Although he grew up "drawing henna tattoos on people and climbing up the outside of tall buildings" in Oxford, the artist now operates from a studio in London's Stoke Newington. "My creative current routine is to put on music by Winter Family (who sing about emotions melting people down into orange liquids, like salt being poured onto a slug), drink endless cups of tea, and until recently I'd also cram shit-loads of chocolate into my mouth, but I've given up sugar as I was in danger of becoming like Alan Partridge during his Toblerone years. It's all about chopped apples now, using my beloved nifty TKMaxx coring and slicing device!" An instrument that cuts Cox into segments? We know folk who'd dribble at the thought.

Long inspired by ancient Egyptian and Oceanic art and masks, and Christian iconographical paintings, Hillier's recent work has also been influenced by a meditation

retreat he attended last year. This prompted him to research the Burmese Buddhist tradition of 'Maps of Insight', which describe and guide the mental processes that practitioners go through while meditating. As a result, Eastern renderings of gods and goddesses have begun to slip into his images: for example, the illustration 'Our Lady Of Everything' shows a woman with four arms, referencing the Hindu goddess of time and change, Kali. However, Hillier states that the most powerful artistic deity for him is the

"My creative routine is to put on music by the Winter Family"



German Dadaist and Surrealist, Max Ernst. "He made a book entitled 'Une Semaine De Bonté', or 'A Week of Kindness', which contains 182 collage pictures made from pieces snipped out of Victorian reference books, pulp fiction periodicals and novels," he enthuses. "I saw original plates from it in Paris a few years ago, and it was proper mind-blowing to view them up close. You couldn't see where he'd spliced some of the pictures together at all."

LA CROSS

From fine art to body art, Hillier's prints have been displayed at Into You tattoo studio, home of revered body modifiers including Alex Binnie and Tomas Tomas. He has plans for his own skin to be inked by the Into You guys, as well as Brooklyn's Thomas Hooper. The tats will join a piece already on his wrist... and a tiny upside-down cross he and his mates did on their hands when 14, drunk on cider, listening to Slayer. "It's lovely to go back home and see our miniscule matching tattoos on big fat man hands!" he grins.

Given that we discovered Hillier via a social networking site, are those man hands typing status updates all day? "The internet has insane potential to radically alter the way in which we communicate, but I do think our devotion to distraction and scanning through Facebook and Twitter is eroding our ability to be properly present in most situations," he muses. "I can see the benefits of the world wide web, yet I have fantasies of living in a woodland with only a Bakelite telephone, switched on for one hour per week." After listening to virginal nun and art historian Sister Wendy talk about her lifestyle on Radio 4's Desert Island Discs programme, Hillier concluded that "she is one of the most sane people I've ever heard speak", elaborating: "She lives silently in the woods, praying for most of every day. People commented online on what a 'waste of a life' they thought that was for a human being with such huge knowledge and talent. But she's doing exactly what she wants, and not partaking in the hubbub that is getting more shrieking by the minute." If Dan decides to run for the Hilliers and become a hermit, will we have regrets? If he keeps producing this artwork – nun.

Feast your peepers on more at Danhillier.com



HOTSHOTS > BODY MODS

WARNING!
EYEBALL TATTOOING IS
EXTREMELY DANGEROUS
AND YOU COULD GO BLIND.
DON'T TRY IT AT HOME!

BL-INKING 'ECK!

Bod mod enthusiast the 'King of Ink Land' talks about his political opinions... as seen through his newly tattooed eyeball

The full legal name of the man you can see on these pages is 'King of Ink Land Body Art The Extreme Ink-It'. Hailing from Stechford, Birmingham, the 33-year-old used to be a wrestler known as 'The Body Artist'; while an incident in which he was "stabbed by some idiot" put paid to his sporting career, he decided to stick with the flamboyant names. "Taxi companies do tend to think I'm having a laugh when I call to order a cab for the King of Ink Land – I have to convince them I'm not joking before they'll send a car," he admits. "The 'Ink Land' part of my name partially refers to being British, although I don't class myself as 'white'; if asked for my ethnicity, I state 'rainbow' or 'modified'. Lots of my friends just call me Body Art, or Bart for short."

IN THE EYES OF THE LAW

In addition to having a remarkable moniker, the King of Ink Land has some remarkable views. Inspired by stories of people who felt that they were being discriminated against because of their tattoos, piercings, or other body modifications or related lifestyle choices, in 2010 he joined the Liberal Democrats, and now attends conferences and has started political campaigns designed to "get a fair deal for modified people, and improve understanding and education about the culture". He says, "The government needs to understand that there are human beings who undergo what I call 'Human Body Alteration Procedures', or 'HBAPs', who are not treated equally on various platforms – for example, the music retailer HMV, the Met police and the military state that their employees must not have visible tattoos."

The King of Ink Land's self-assigned remit is extremely broad – during our interview he mentions body dysmorphic disorder, breast implants following mastectomies due to cancer, changes in body shape as a result of illness, soldiers with amputated limbs, hate crimes, children getting into trouble at school for colouring their hair, and gastric bands as topics he feels have relevance to his definition of 'Human Body Alteration' and

WORDS **ALIX FOX**
PHOTOS
ROB MILLWARD

that he is concerned with. His statements regarding his mission are incredibly bold: "A man called Vladimir Franz who is 90 per cent tattooed is running for president in the Czech Republic," he says. "We have historic leaders who are female, and now America has a black president; with the right people involved and the right backing, this could be as big as when the black community stood up and took a stand for fairness. Martin Luther King was an inspirational man and if the modified community can achieve a fraction of what he did then things will be moving in the right direction."

Lynne Featherstone, parliamentary under secretary of state for equalities and criminal information, does not share the same opinions as the King of Ink Land. He wrote to the Home Secretary, Theresa May, in March 2011, asking about legislation to protect against "body modification discrimination", with particular regard to employment. Featherstone replied, stating that an amendment of discrimination law based on body mods would be problematic to draft, and furthermore would not be appropriate since UK laws of this type are currently designed to "cover characteristics that are immutable or changeable only with difficulty", such as age, race, gender, sexual orientation, religion and pregnancy. In contrast, she did not see modifications such as tattoos falling into that category, believing that in such context "individuals have an ability and choice to change their appearance". The King of Ink Land continues to lobby about the matter.

SIGHT FOR SORE EYES

On a more personal level, he's just fulfilled a decade-long dream to have an eyeball tattoo – or, to use another self-coined term he prefers, "Sclera Staining", 'sclera' being the medical term for the white of the eye. The procedure was performed using External Triple Black ink by celebrated Polish transgendered mod artist Roni Lachowicz. "I wish I could lie and say I wasn't nervous, but far from it!" the King of Ink Land jokes. "Feeling the needle jab into my eye, and the ink being injected via syringe and spreading out was the strangest sensation. The process involved puncturing my eye tissue several times and we did hit a small vein at one point, but that's not as serious as it sounds. The whole thing took about half an hour, the swelling went down after a week, and I should be 100 per cent healed by March."

The growing popularity of eyeball tattoos has worried leading bod mod figures as well as doctors, who are concerned for people rushing into a process that's not proven to be safe. Body modification legend Shannon Larratt recently updated an online 'BME Eyeball Tattoo FAQ' that provides the latest information on the procedure, which includes the line, "the official recommendation is that YOU SHOULD NOT TATTOO YOUR EYEBALLS." The King of Ink Land, undeterred by experts' warnings, states that he's "never been more proud of a black eye in my life", although he's hoping to have his eye monitored by specialists. At present, only his left eyeball is tattooed, so that if the ink compromises his vision over time, he will still have a functioning right eye. He muses that if he was to get a second eyeball tattoo, he'd consider blue ink, to match his facial tattoos. He's also looked into having his parents' ashes injected into his eyeballs, so that "every day they can see what I see", but Roni told him it would be likely to cause irritation. "Other than tattoos, for my next project I'd really like transdermal implants on the right side of my head, and amputation is something I'm open to – I've considered finger shortening," he states. His ultimate mod, if anything was possible? "I'd choose everlasting life, but not like Christ! I'd have my brain uploaded onto a computer system."

The King of Ink Land with
ITV's Sue Jameson at the
2011 Lib Dem conference





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Bizarre's own **Mandatron** loves nothing better than greasing her circuits, pressing her buttons and blowing a fuse over your crazy photos, perverted art and impressive ink. Send in your stuff now, and serve your friendly neighbourhood robot!

Mandatron's favourite submissions will make it onto these hallowed pages!

Junk mail

EDITED BY MANDATRON

MANDATRON@BLACKTHORNCOMMUNICATIONS.COM

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SEND US YOUR STUFF!

EYE OF THE NEEDLE

A few years ago I had an unlucky accident resulting in the loss of sight in my left eye. Since then it's become discoloured and such. I noticed in your magazine a while back that it was possible to have cosmetic surgery that places tiny images placed under the (I'm unsure of the medical name) first protective lens / layer of the white of the eye. I seem to remember that the people you showed in the mag had stars inserted.

As I'm blind in my eye, I'm interested in finding out whether I could have something awesome placed smack bang in the middle of my pupil, as it wouldn't make a difference to me. I'm just having trouble finding the name of the procedure or anything about it on the web. If you could let me know of any details, that'd be great.

Joe Rodgers, via Facebook

Mandatron says: We covered this procedure as part of a larger feature on body mods (see extract below). These Cosmetic Extraocular Implants were done in 2004 by specialists from the Netherlands Institute for Innovative Ocular Surgery. Let us know how you get on!



EYEBALL IMPLANTS

STICK A NEEDLE IN MY EYE...

In 2004, specialists from the Netherlands Institute for Innovative Ocular Surgery (NIIOC) in Rotterdam implanted 3.5mm-wide pieces of platinum jewellery into the eyes of six women and one man.

The eye-watering procedure, known as a cosmetic extraocular implant, takes about 15 minutes to carry out and involves the jewellery being inserted into the eyeball's mucous membrane, once a local-anaesthetic eyedrop has been used to numb the eye.

Patients can choose to have a personal shape made, or they can select from the ones that are already available, which include a heart, a star, a half-moon, a Euro sign, a four-leaved clover and a musical note.

NIIOC director Gerrit Melles says, "This new procedure is a bit of fun, and a very personal thing for the people who have it done."



Dumpstar!

WHAT A KNOCKOUT!

Hey y'all! Ultra Vixen Christine Fury here. I'm a huge fan of the magazine and I wanted to send you these photos. I was in a horrible car accident right after I turned 18 which knocked out my three front teeth – I'd just had my braces removed, too!

My car was clipped and it spun and flipped into a water canal. I fell out of the sunroof and woke up pinned under the windshield, trying to figure out how I was looking inside my vehicle. I felt dirt in my left hand so I thought I had rocks in my mouth, but they turned out to be my teeth. I had massive trauma to my whole face; my cheek bones were damaged, my bottom

lip was completely hanging off and my upper mandible was crushed. All my ribs were broken and my right wrist bent backwards. I was fucked up. After being in-and-out the hospital for over a year for surgeries to put me back together, when it came to fixing my teeth I said: "Fuck it, let my upper mandible try and heal, and please send me some teeth."

I had always wanted to be a pin-up as I love that era and wanted to mix the look with my punk self. Before the accident I was young and didn't feel like a woman. Then, right after the accident, I felt more like the Bride of Frankenstein.

I started modelling in my early twenties because by that point I felt comfortable with who I was and learning to deal with the changes. I shoot with my teeth out sometimes because why the fuck not?

When I was first dealing with my teeth, I was nervous when thinking about dating. I can't eat with them in, so what was I supposed to do? Go on a first date and be like: "I gotta take my teeth out..."? Luckily for me, Long Beach is a city full of punks. I've been with my tattooist boyfriend for six years. He doesn't bat an eyelid at my teeth. I've got the best friends in the world who hold my teeth for me whenever I enter mosh-pits, put them in their pocket when I want a snack, look for them when I get drunk and lose them, and help me glue them back together when I break them.

Christine Fury, California

See Christine Fury's profile at ultravixens.net/christinefury

Mandatron says: It's bloody brilliant to hear from Ultra Vixens that have such inspiring don't-give-a-fuck attitudes, and that feel comfortable in their own skin no matter what life throws at them!

CALL OF CTHULHU

As purveyors of darker imagery, I thought you might like to see my interpretation of *The Call of Cthulhu* (right) which I was asked to tattoo recently on Tom 'Felix' Platt. He's been a fan of HP Lovecraft for at least a decade. But how can you design the unknowable, you may ask?

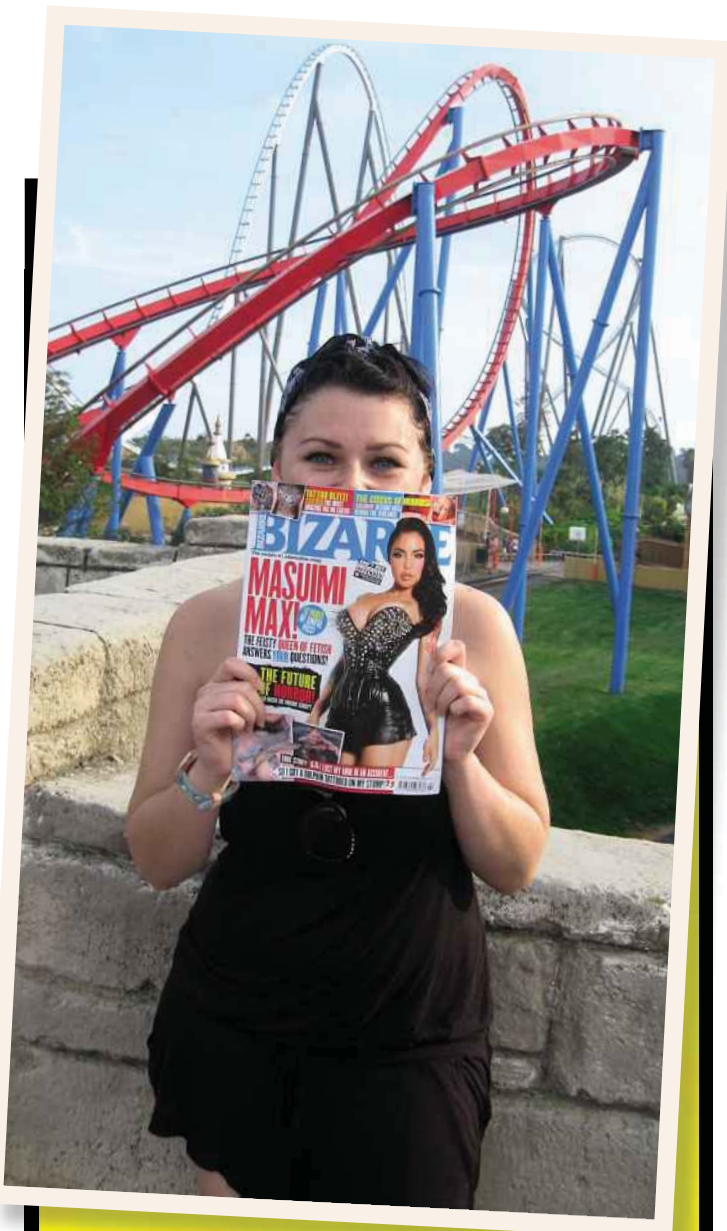
It all started by absorbing as much of the mythos of Cthulhu as I could, then allowing it to flow unassisted on the customers' skin. This mapping process allowed me the time to digest the idea and then plan a pencil drawing, which then turned into a tattoo that

I think Lovecraft which have approved of. The tattoo itself took around seven hours in one sitting.

Tom has been reading *Bizarre* on and off for years – well, he admitted to mostly checking out the 'Ultra Vixens' pictures! We regularly keep a copy of *Bizarre* around our studio, Needle Asylum, to show the customers that people don't need to follow the current trends; it's perfectly fine to stand out from the crowd.

That's why I value customers like Tom who are happy to let me have the creative freedom to go nuts.

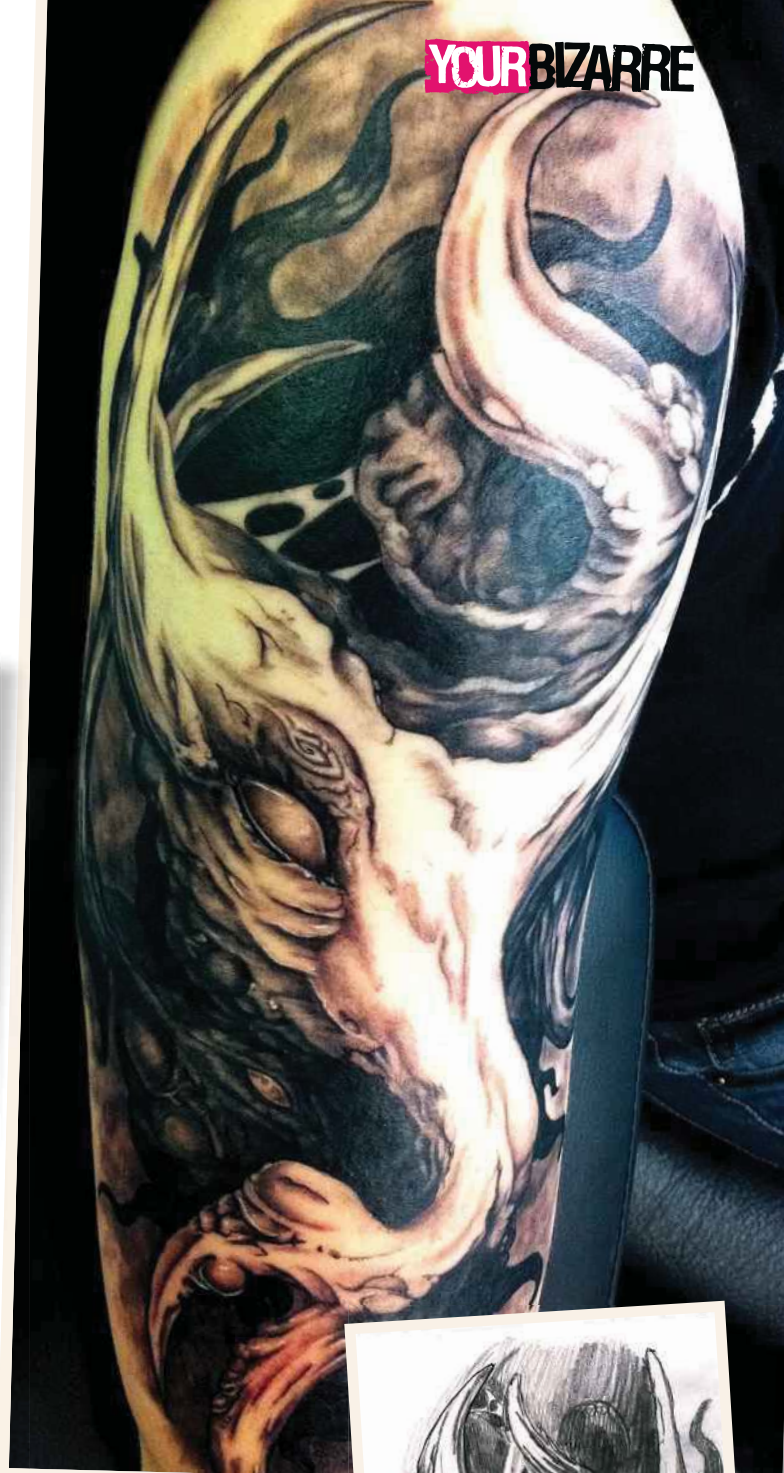
Simon Ashley, Cardiff



TOUCHING CLOTH

I just want to get my pale face in *Bizarre*! Here I am with your wonderful rag at Port Aventura in Spain. Just behind me are Dragon Khan and Shambhala – a shit-your-pants, scary-as-fuck roller coaster with an 84ft drop. My boyfriend described the car for it as: "B&Q flatbed trolleys with bucket seats bolted to them". They had no shoulder restraints. Whoever invented them is probably a bit of a sadist. However, besides the soiled underwear it leaves you with (and that's just from looking at it) it's easily the best roller coaster I've ever been on.

Samantha Ann Salisbury, via email



TATT'S NOT RIGHT

Dear *Bizarre*. I'm a female tattoo apprentice, learning in Devon with Dris Donnelly at Artium Ink. Writing this may take a while for me, as I have dyslexia. Being dyslexic and female are things I legally cannot be discriminated against, but I can be discriminated against for being tattooed. I am writing to see if there is anything substantial that can be done to stop the discrimination that is forced on those that have inked skin.

The news last year that the Metropolitan police and HMV are both banning visible tattoos is distressing. I had felt that the social acceptance of tattoos was getting better, but after these two instances I'm scared that general public perception is worsening.

I understand police officers need to stick to a code of conduct, but I fail →



to see how tattoos would affect the efficiency of the officer him / herself. Also, if this radical change is to do with the image of the officer, then I would like to point out that the police hire people of all shapes, races and sizes, so why does decorated skin make such a huge impact?

I've worked for troubled record store HMV twice. Both times I was hired by staff who embraced my piercings and tattoos, as well as my knowledge of music, games and films. The new rules appear to be an obvious attempt to draw in customers and save the business, but discriminating against their staff is not the way to do this. I've never had one complaint made against me for being heavily tattooed or pierced.

I have been discriminated against for being tattooed, and even more so since learning how to tattoo. I do not receive a salary for being an apprentice, so I have another job in a shop. But my bosses there have told me that if I get any visible tattoos I will be fired. I went to my local butcher to get some pig skin to practice tattooing on, but the butcher shouted at me and said: "You can't have any; it will be wasted on you." I can only assume he does not like the tattoo industry and does not agree with tattoos.

My best friend is a mental health nurse who cannot display her tattoos,

and my twin sister is a tutor and won't show hers for fear of prejudice from parents. I am bombarded with Facebook campaigns and posters highlighting the discrimination we face, but none of these online pages are making a difference to the amount of persecution that happens all over the UK. I was wondering if there is any other legal campaign for equality for tattooed workers in the UK, or if one could be set up? I know that this persecution has been happening for generations, and I have been called naïve for wanting to campaign for equality in the workplace for tattooed people. I am sure Oscar Wilde, Rosa Parks and Emily Pankhurst were all called naïve at some point. This is something I feel strongly about, and I will give everything to stand up for the tattooing community.

Claire Jackson, via email

Mandatron says: You make some important points, Claire. Body modification and tattoo discrimination are supposed to be protected against, and in particular circumstances that fall under the Equality Act on the grounds of religion or belief. That might be the best place to start researching. Keep us posted with your progress.



When Sarah Lou flew to Egypt, she shared her *Bizarre* with a "peacock" made from a towel. Later that week, a towel-elephant appeared who'd "heard from the peacock that the mag ruled".



WHERE DO YOU READ YOURS?

Most of you enjoy perusing *Bizarre* on the crapper, just like King Karim Jamal (right), but we want to see you reading the world's greatest rag on the highest peaks, in the lowest valleys... and in the weirdest places!



PICTURE: DAN ARCHER



SPARKS FLY

At the end of last year I had a really exciting photoshoot where I learned how to angle-grind, thanks to performance artists Johnny Strange and Laydee Layton. We also had make-up artist Amanda Hall create realistic cuts and gashes for a slasher-style series of photos (above) with a chainsaw! Fans

and readers can keep up-to-date with my shoots (including my VIP-NSFW stuff) by checking out my Ultra Vixen profile – I'm also signed up to webcam on there, so a Live Chat can be arranged on my profile's schedule.

Collette Von Tora, via email
Find Collette's Ultra Vixen profile here: Ultravixens.net/collettevontora

PICTURE: DAN ARCHER

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Ultra Vixen
Melissa
Hayward does
not like to be
kept waiting



PICTURE: JASON McDONALD

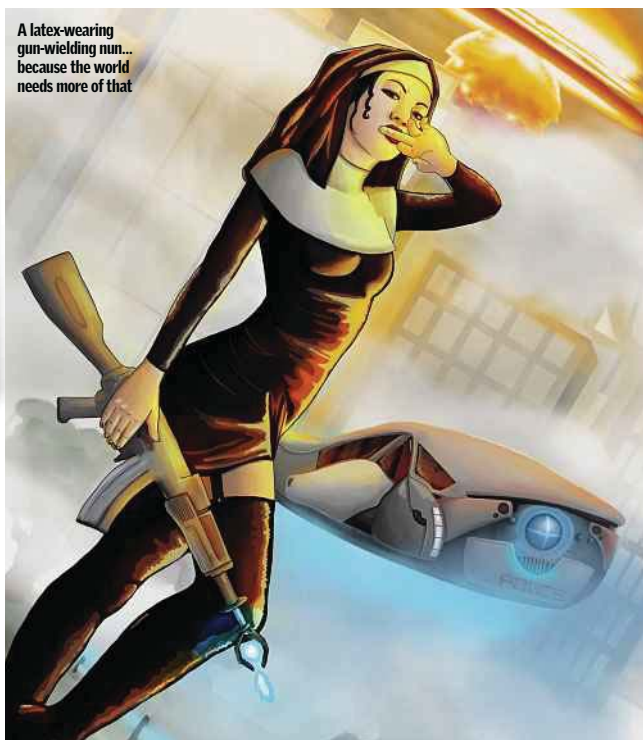


Creepy Claus
and his elves at
industrial night,
MACHINE, in Brum

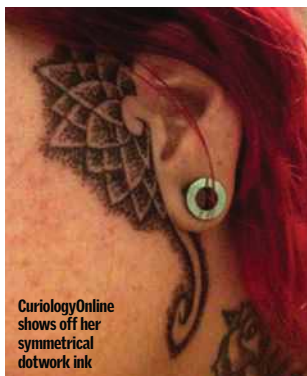


Jay Collett's
Boba Fett
tatt took nine
hours at the
London Tattoo
Convention

A latex-wearing
gun-wielding nun...
because the world
needs more of that



PICTURE: BETHAN LIENTIE ROBERTS



CurriologyOnline
shows off her
symmetrical
dotwork ink



Ultra Vixen
Sabien gets cheeky
in a tattoo studio

PICTURE: JORDANE ROBERTS

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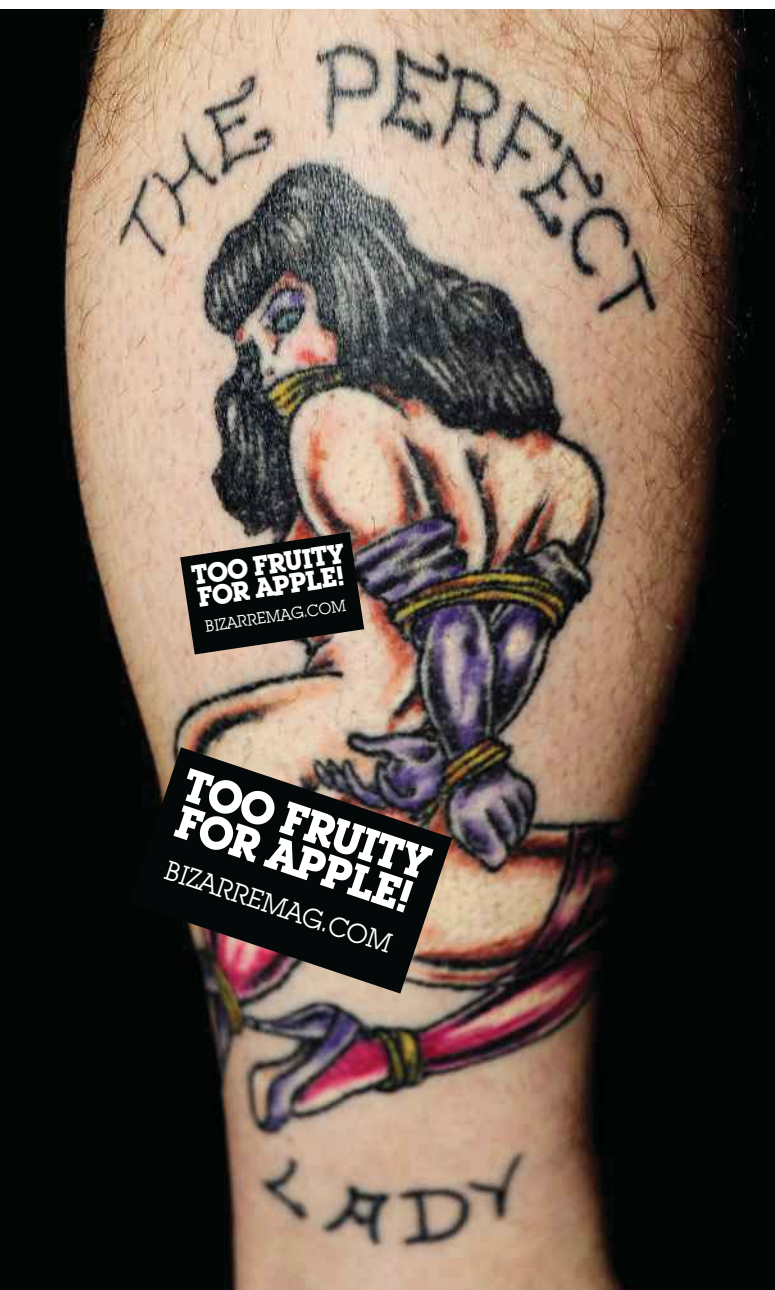


PICTURE: MARTIN PERREAU

YOUR Body Art

PHOTOS **ESTER SEGARRA**

READER TATTS AND BODY MODS



KYLIE MUSTAPIC ▼ LEEDS



ARTIST Scott Mustapic at Ink Vs Steel, Leeds.

WHAT IS IT? A portrait of Carmen Miranda.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE IT?

I like the 1950s era, especially the fashion, and I thought this picture of Carmen Miranda was really nice. It was awful being tattooed by my husband, though, because he was really hard on me! He wouldn't let me give up when I wanted to quit, and he made

me sit there until he was completely finished! This portrait took about three or four hours to complete.

WHAT DO YOUR FAMILY THINK?

They think it's cool. I had the tattoo done at Tattoo Jam in 2010. Surprisingly, it's not too bad being tattooed at a convention while people are watching, because you know it has to be finished before the show ends.

WHAT RESPONSE DO YOU GET?

I get a lot of stares and some comments, but nothing negative or nasty. People like to ask questions.

GOT ANY MORE PLANNED?

I'd like some more portraits of film icons on my leg, perhaps of Lauren Bacall and Marilyn Monroe.



▲ STEVE PERRY WOLVERHAMPTON



ARTIST Agar at Agar & Keys Tattoos, Walsall.

WHAT IS IT?

I've got several pin-up tattoos, including this bondage image of 'The Perfect Lady'.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE IT?

I'm into rockabilly music and the 1950s, so I have Betty Boop and pin-up girl tattoos. I also like The Stray Cats, and I have a tattoo of them on my other leg. I've even got David Bowie's eyes tattooed on my arse.

WHAT RESPONSE DO YOU GET FROM PEOPLE?

People are amazed by my pin-ups, especially Betty Boop, because they're all the rage again. I've had pin-up ink for years; the tattoo of Betty Boop on the top of my arm has been there for over 15 years.



STEPHEN POTTER
KINGSWINFORD,
WEST MIDLANDS



ARTIST Rob Cartwright at Rob's Tattoo Studio, Brierley Hill.
WHAT IS IT? I have a tiger on my

back, and on my arm, along with a bird of paradise on my other arm, and a big dragon on my back.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE THEM?

I had a load of crap tattoos on my arms, so my sleeves are all cover-ups. New tattoos make me feel younger. I've always liked animals and the Japanese use of colour, so I decided to get big feature pieces. I think my tattoos have more impact because

people can see them from a distance. So far I've won an award for 'Best Large Cover Male' at a convention in Manchester with my back piece. That design represents strength, but it's more of a cosmetic thing for me; I like how tattoos look. Tigers have bright colours – everybody loves a tiger!

WHAT DO YOUR FAMILY THINK?

My parents don't like tattoos – but if it's what I want, then that's what I get.

My missus thinks I should do what I want. Most people like my tattoos because they're high quality.

GOT ANY MORE PLANNED?

I don't know if I want to put myself through it again as it's taken three years to get my sleeves and back done. I was inked for a couple of hours every week. I'd have to commit myself if I want a large chest piece, but I don't know if I'm ready for that. →



MICHELLE MADISON ▼ UK



ARTIST John Anderton at the Nemesis Tattoo Studio, County Durham.

WHAT IS IT? A Caia Koopman-style piece.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE IT?

I've been a fan of Koopman's art for a long time, and a fan of John's tattoos. John did his own interpretation of Koopman's art – he added the bees and named them Pollen and Marcus. I love my tattoo – the colours are amazing.

WHAT DO YOUR FAMILY THINK ABOUT IT?

Most of my family love it, and my nan has just started to like my tattoos. When she saw this particular design, she said, "I like it, Michelle – just not on you." I'd say she's starting to come around, though.

WHAT RESPONSE DO YOU GET FROM PEOPLE?

I've not had many comments about it, but if I do show people my tattoo they often want to stroke it, which is a little strange.

GOT ANY MORE PLANNED?

I'll have more tattoos, but I have nothing in the pipeline yet.



▲ ALEX DYER HULL



ARTIST Mark Bailey at Golden Dragon, Chester.

WHAT IS IT? Christopher Reeve as Superman.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE IT?

I'm getting tattoos of different characters I loved as a child, and Superman is a big one for me – I was only six when I watched the Christopher Reeve films. I'm also going to get SuperTed and LEGO pirate tattoos. I've seen loads of people

tattooed with the Superman 'S' logo, but I wanted to get a proper portrait of the character, so it had to be an image of Christopher Reeve. I emailed quite a few tattooists before choosing an artist, and I also spent a lot of time going to conventions. Mark Bailey replied to my email straight away, and told me he'd always wanted to do a tattoo of Superman.

WHAT RESPONSE DO YOU GET FROM PEOPLE?

Everybody loves it, and people often stop me to ask who did it. I love it – it's brilliant, and it's exactly what I wanted. I was expecting it to take six hours, but it only took four.



▲ PAUL COOK SALISBURY



ARTIST Chantelle Coady at Montana Studios, Bath.
WHAT IS IT?

On my left arm I have Poseidon, and some lovely mermaids at the bottom. On my right is a 1950s British scuba diver, surrounded by an array of different sharks, including a tiger shark, a great white, a reef shark at the back, and some hammerheads.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE IT? I'm a scuba diver, and I'm hoping to become an instructor, so all my ink relates to diving. Sharks are endangered at the

moment, and people are killing something like 73 million a year. Sharks can't reproduce very fast, so their stocks are dwindling and they're becoming endangered, and that's the reason for my shark sleeve.

WHAT DO YOUR FAMILY THINK ABOUT THEM?

My mum and dad hate them. They say they can see the artistic content, but I think they don't like them because they're too big. My friends love them.

WHAT RESPONSE DO YOU GET FROM PEOPLE?

You get some people who stare as they walk past. Some people approach me and ask lots of questions. How could anyone not like my tattoos? My future tattoos will also be sea-themed. →



PAUL MCCARTHY BOLTON



ARTIST Danny Watson from Vida Loca, Bolton.
WHAT IS IT? It's a 'Mistress Of Justice' back piece.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE IT?

I wanted something along religious lines, but nothing too heavy. Some parts of the image are based on my research, and Danny drew the rest freehand.

WHAT RESPONSE DO YOU GET FROM PEOPLE?

My family love it. People normally ask me why I got it done, or say it's awesome. I don't mind taking my shirt off to show people my back; I'm not shy at all. A photo of my back piece is displayed in Danny's tattoo studio – I think he's proud of it. It took 37 hours over eight sessions. People can't believe the detail.

GOT ANY MORE PLANNED?

Yes, on my left arm. I'm getting black and grey sleeves with bits of red, with everything joined together with roses.

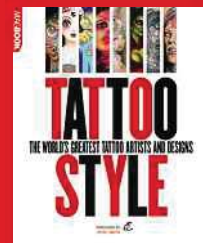
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Kate Griffiths

Kent

"I'd describe my theatrical make-up as devilish. I wanted to create something which draws your eyes to the lips, then your eye moves around the image to the pretty eyelashes for a touch of beauty."

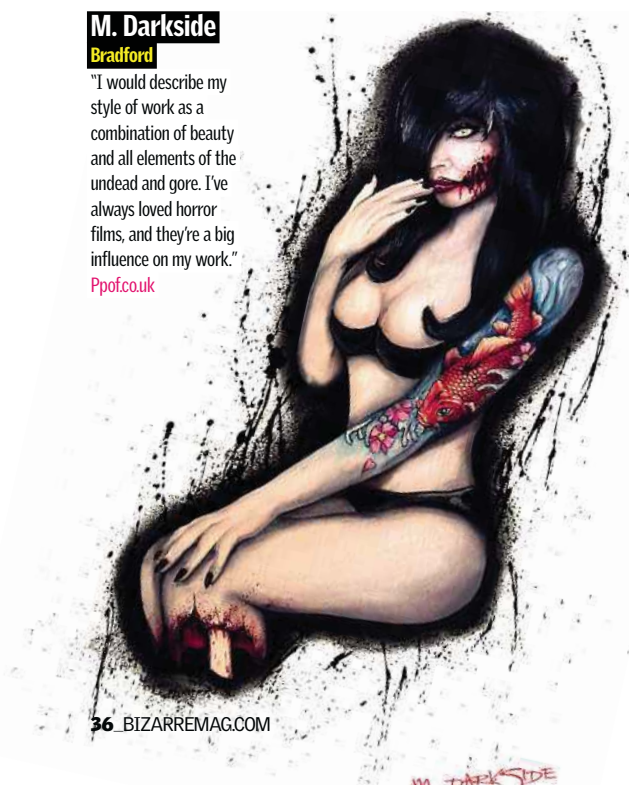
Theatricalmakeupartist.com

M. Darkside

Bradford

"I would describe my style of work as a combination of beauty and all elements of the undead and gore. I've always loved horror films, and they're a big influence on my work."

Ppof.co.uk



Lisa Koziol-Ellis

Chicago

"I'm inspired by the perverted beauty I find in the world on a daily basis. This piece is titled 'Cthulhu's Slutbag'; when Cthulhu awakens, he's got a lot of sperm to unleash."

Foxygoat.com



Stanley Kubrick presents

Butcher Billy

Brazil

"To create my work, I start with drunk sketches on napkins from sleazy bars, and then use Adobe Creative tools when I'm more sober. I'm inspired by the wisdom on the back of shampoo bottles."

Be.net/butcherbilly



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Martino Catalano
Manchester

"I create weird and twisted imagery by sculpting clay and casting my work into a hard material. I find my inspiration in erotic films and literature, mythology and the spirit world."

Martinocatalano.com



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IVYTENEBRAE

26, MANCHESTER

"The weirdest moment of my life so far was when I awoke from a coma. My ideal partner would have long hair, be good at Shibari bondage and wouldn't mind me spending all my money on latex."

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PICTURE: MISS AFFLECK PHOTOGRAPHY

PICTURE: TWISTED PIX

BETTIE RAMPAGE

27, PENNSYLVANIA

"I cannot wait to be mummified while wearing a latex catsuit; it's my hottest sexual fantasy. I once covered myself and my partner in paint, and we made love on one of my giant canvases."

PICTURE: AARON NUTTER

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SARAHKAWAII

25, LONDON

"I really admire Pamela Anderson for still being super hot in her forties and for all of the work she does for charity. I love touching boobies, playing *World Of Warcraft* and partying hard."

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VICTORIA VAN VIOLENCE

24, FRANKFURT

"I'm a chaotic vegan punk-rocker who loves travelling, drinking beer and watching Tim Burton movies. I don't regret anything I've done in my life because every mistake has something positive."



PICTURE: HANNA L'INSPIRATION
PHOTOGRAPHY & VISUAL ARTS

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CAN CHAT **ONE-ON-ONE** WITH ME



LOLAPINCH

LOLAPINCH

26, WILTSHIRE

"I'm a hard-working crazy cat-lady who loves to be in the nude. I have fantasies involving restraints and I love to inflict a little bit of pain. What do I like about *Bizarre* magazine? Everything."

PICTURE: RICHARD MATTHEWS/REM PHOTOGRAPHY

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Each month we'll be scouring UltraVixens.net for new stars. When we've spotted 10 girls we like, we'll invite them to take part in a photoshoot in London, which will be printed in *Bizarre*. If any of the girls make the grade, they'll appear on the cover, just like PoppyThorn did (below)! Up for the challenge? Then sign up at UltraVixens.net and hit the 'Make Me A Cover Star' button on your profile page!



OUR NEW FAVES!

BIZARRE ART DIRECTOR DAVE KELSALL AND MANDATRON JUDGE NEW ARRIVALS ON ULTRAVIXENS.NET

PICTURE: MALIK TOG



LEYAH SHANKS

Mandatron says: "Leyah aims to spread body confidence and most admires the queen of pin-up and perfect bangs, Bettie Page. High self-esteem and high heels make a perfect match. Werk it!"



Dave Kelsall says: "And not a tattoo in sight... which is different! Used to be the other way around of course... anyway... who cares... she's beautiful!"

MARCY HORROR



Mandatron says: "It takes every bit of guster I can muster to avoid puns about those peachy buns, or saying something about being horny after looking through Marcy's photos on her profile. Too late!"



Dave Kelsall says: "Wow, what a stunning picture, everything about this image is perfect Bizarre cover material... apart from the bum... we're not allowed to show bare botties on the cover any more, fact fans!"



PICTURE: LE MEW

KER-CHING!



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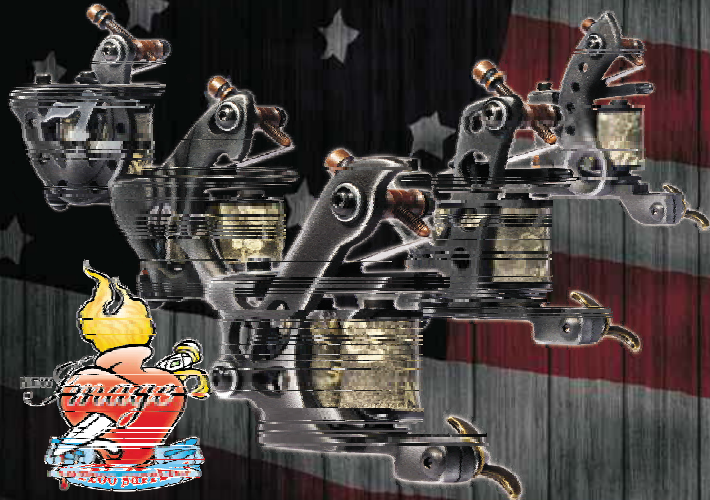


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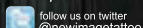


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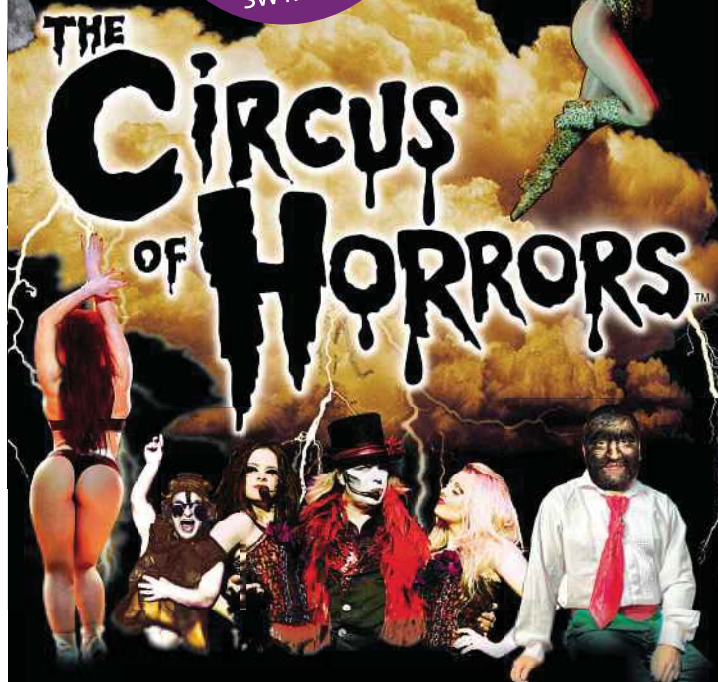


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Leamington Spa Royal Spa Theatre 01926 334 418 warwickdc.gov.uk/wdc/royalspacentre	Wed 20 Feb	Newcastle Mill Volvo Tyne Theatre 0844 493 9999 millvolvoTyneTheatre.co.uk	Sat 9 Mar
Worthing Pavilion 01903 206206 worthingtheatres.co.uk	Mon 25 Feb	Burnley Mechanics 01282 664400 burnleymechanics.co.uk	Sun 10 Mar
Weymouth Pavilion 01305 783225 weymouthpavilion.purchase-tickets-online.co.uk	Tues 26 Feb	Motherwell Concert Hall 01698 403120 motherwelltheatre.co.uk	Tues 12 Mar
Bournemouth Pavilion 0844 576 3000 bic.co.uk	Wed 27 Feb	Dundee Whitehall Theatre 01382 434940 whitehalltheatre.com	Wed 13 Mar
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AMELIA NIGHTMARE

WORDS **STEPHEN DAULTREY**
PHOTOS **CHRISTIAN SAINT**

MULTICOLOURED DREAMGIRL

SWEET DREAMS ARE MADE OF THESE, BABY!

THE RAINBOW-HAIRED AMELIA NIGHTMARE INVITES YOU DEEP INSIDE HER
“LABYRINTH OF BEAUTIFUL MADNESS” FOR SUGAR, SWING DANCING AND SAUCY
BONDAGE SHENANIGANS. WE’RE NOT SURE YOU’LL EVER WANT TO LEAVE... →



AMELIA NIGHTMARE



Everything about Amelia Nightmare is splashed in big colours. From her stupendous mane of funky hair and vibrant skin-ink, to her taste in confetti-cake ice cream and wild imagination, conversing with the California-based princess is a bit like waking up in Oz (the one where 'The Wizard' lives) and discovering that 'black and white' was an unwanted concept that got eradicated in the 17th century, along with the bubonic plague, open-air sewers and two-ton lead chastity belts.

Adopted from Seoul in South Korea when she was just a baby, the former star of *NY Ink* has emerged from a glamorous world of rockabilly and classic hot rods to become an exciting young alt.model talent. But you know what her one true secret is – the real reason why Amelia Nightmare is just a little bit crazy and a whole lot of magical? It's because she is actually part unicorn and hatched from a giant gumball in the sky. Now ain't that just something...

a beach, watching waves crash against the rocks. The waves keep getting bigger so I keep moving backwards, but my sister is also there, and she's holding my two kittens. A huge wave catches her, so I jump in to save them. In the most recent one, I get them to shore but I'm then washed away myself. I always die at the end of this dream, either by drowning or by being eaten. Weird!

Sniff... that's sad. Hugs from the Bizarre team!

Any idea what this dream could mean?

Aw, hugs are always welcome! I figure it represents my fear of losing control in the hardships and challenges that I encounter. I wish I could figure out more specific details.

Do you like analysing your dreams?

Yes, they're a window to my subconscious. I don't always understand how my crazy mind works, so this helps me figure it out a bit more.

Do you ever have naughty dreams?

Surprisingly, not that many. But when I do, ohhhh man, they are awesome!

Richard, Mad Sin and Torment. But I'm a music junkie and also love The Specials, Rancid, Led Zeppelin, The Misfits... If I could shoot music into my veins with a hypodermic needle, I would.

Does your guy have a huge rockabilly quiff?

No, my dude has a moderate to normal sized pompadour. I'm actually a very lucky girl because I'm with my dream guy: he plays upright bass, he swing dances, and he makes me laugh until I pee myself. We also skateboard together, smoke a lot of weed, and he's hot as hell!

So the 1950s would be your all-time best era?

Great, but I'd ultimately want to go back to the 17th century and eat cake with Marie Antoinette.

You were adopted from South Korea when you were four months old. Has your Korean heritage impacted on you much as a person?

I was adopted by a family in California, but my dad is originally from England. He moved to the States when he married my mom, who's from Germany. My sister is their biological child.

"I WAS LOCKED UP AND INSTITUTIONALISED IN UTAH BY A BUNCH OF RELIGIOUS NUTJOBS FOR THREE YEARS. BUT I SURVIVED AND CAME OUT A BETTER PERSON FOR IT"

Your website is called Amelia In Wonderland. What would your ultimate wonderland be?

It would be like falling down a rabbit hole into an odd world of bright pastel colours, where everything is made of sugar, even the people! I guess it would be like a mix of Willy Wonka, Never Never Land, and *A Nightmare Before Christmas*. Basically, like walking into one of my dreams... labyrinths of beautiful madness.

Alice's dreams took her to Wonderland. Have you had any fucked up dreams lately?

I have this recurring dream where I'm standing on

Your biography says you were part of the rockabilly scene. How did you get into that?

I'm in love with the culture: the classic hot rods, the stylish mega babes, and swanky rock'n'roll music. I also love swing dancing! My boyfriend plays upright bass and is this hot greaser guy. I met some of my best friends through the scene.

Can you recommend some cool rockabilly bands for us and readers to check out?

I enjoy Dypsomaniaxe, who are a bad ass all-girl psychobilly band from England. Also Stray Cats, The Cramps, Reverend Horton Heat, Sharks, Little

People often ask if I feel a difference between us, but my sister is my best friend, and I have never felt anything less. I have very little knowledge of my heritage culture. To be honest, I'm more connected to my roots in England.

Has your adopted family inspired you in your life and career?

My family has always encouraged me to find what I love, do it well, to dream big, and be passionate. I'm so blessed that I came into a family who were so loving, accepting and compassionate. They are my cheerleaders. →



“IF I
COULD
SHOOT
MUSIC INTO
MY VEINS
WITH A
HYPODERMIC
NEEDLE,
I WOULD”



You said that your whole life has been weird. What's the strangest thing that's happened?

Being locked up and institutionalised in Utah by a bunch of religious nutjobs for three years. But I survived and came out a better person for it.

What the fuck? Care to divulge?

Let's just put it this way – I was very difficult in my adolescent years. My parents felt they needed to keep me safe, so they sent me to a place in Utah. It was supposed to be a place for troubled kids, but prayed on desperate, vulnerable parents who didn't know what else to do. My parents had no clue what really went on there. It was like a sadistic cult, which programmed ridiculous shit into people's heads. But even though it was a terrible experience, without it I wouldn't have the drive and determination that I have now. If I could survive that, I could do anything! I now appreciate every moment of freedom I have, it's so easily taken for granted.

You love biking and skateboarding. Have you ever had any nasty accidents?

Hell yes! I almost stopped skateboarding because of a nasty spill. I was bombing a hill in a construction site and got speed wobbles. I ate shit so hard and for so long that it felt like I was tumbling down that damn hill forever! I've got some battle scars from it: a heart shaped welt on my knee and road rash all over my body. Awesome!

You starred on *NY Ink*. How was that?

It was 13 hours of intense tattooing with no breaks and little food, but being on TV was pretty sweet. Although watching yourself back is like hearing yourself on the answering machine for your first time. It's weird because you realise how dorky you really are.

Tell us a big secret about yourself that you've never revealed before?

I'm part unicorn. I hatched from a giant pink gumball that fell out of the sky. Oh, and I also have an old, dirty, ripped up baby blanket that I sleep with every night named 'Binkie'. I take it everywhere with me. My boyfriend and family have accepted it as a permanent extension of me. Is that a little too odd?

This is *Bizarre*, darling. There's no such thing as 'odd'. Do you have any unusual fetishes?

I like to be tied up...

Oh yeah? Tell us more.

Oh boy, well I do like such things. I enjoy being the submissive one and like being bossed around a bit. But as long as I get a turn at being the boss too, I'm a happy lil' girl!

Have you had any strange requests from fans?

Someone wanted to buy a pair of my dirty socks!

Did you sell them to him... or her?

Well it was this guy who wrote on my Facebook. He wanted a pair of my thigh high socks that I wore in a shoot, and he asked me not to wash them. I never responded, but that was mainly because I suck at writing back messages. Sometimes I have the memory of a goldfish. ¹⁸

Want more? Visit Ameliainwonderland.com, [Facebook.com/amelianightmare](https://www.facebook.com/amelianightmare) and on Instagram @demonpuff →





**“I DON’T
ALWAYS
UNDERSTAND
HOW MY
CRAZY MIND
WORKS”**



“I’M PART
UNICORN.
I HATCHED
FROM A
GIANT
PINK
GUMBALL
THAT FELL
OUT OF
THE SKY”

“I LIKE
TO BE
TIED
UP!”







“I HAVE AN OLD,
DIRTY, RIPPED UP
BABY BLANKET
THAT I SLEEP
WITH EVERY
NIGHT NAMED
‘BINKIE’”

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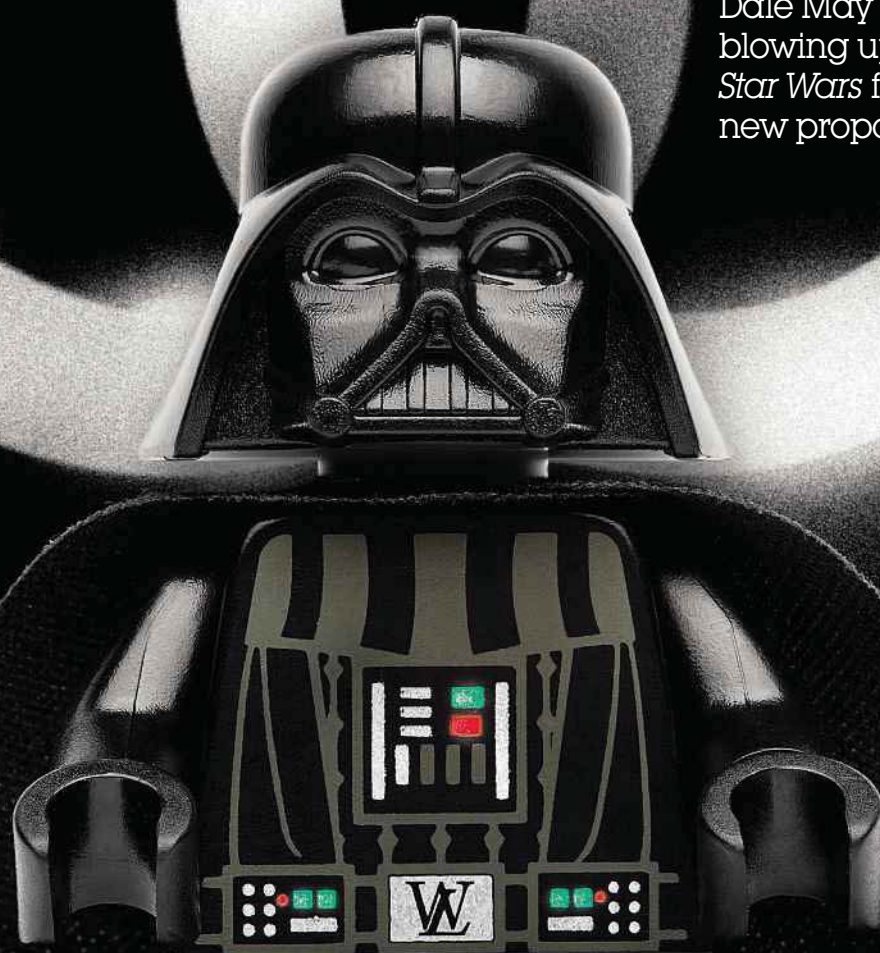
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BUILD THE FORCE, LUKE,

WORDS **STEPHEN DAULTREY**
PORTRAITS **DALE MAY**

From X-rays of Stormtroopers to C-3PO posing against a French fashion house design, American photographer Dale May has been blowing up one-inch *Star Wars* figures to epic new proportions... →





New York-based photographer Dale May is more traditionally found snapping rock'n'roll royalty such as Tony Iommi and Dave Grohl, or A-list pop artists like Christina Aguilera. But when one of his close pals – a man in his 30s – unashamedly spiralled into some sort of awesome mid-life crisis and started buying LEGO *Star Wars* figurines, May stumbled across an idea for a new project that he thought would be out of this world. Rather literally...

"I was looking for a personal thing that I could do without a crew and with a subject that would co-operate and not talk back," says May, who has also photographed Jared Leto and Charlize Theron. "My nephew is obsessed with LEGO, and when a friend of mine, who's in his 30s, started buying them again, I was drawn to LEGO and *Star Wars* because they are both

timeless. I felt that these figures had the most dramatic of LEGO transformations. Darth Vader is one of the most iconic super-villains of all time, yet he was now an inch tall and in danger of being eaten by my Pomeranian..."

The project that became *LEGO Wars* sees Dale photograph classic LEGO *Star Wars* heroes in such a way that transforms these one-inch-tall toys into daunting, evil-eyed megalomaniacs, all set against stylish pop art backdrops.

Currently exhibiting at the Samuel Owen Gallery in Connecticut, US, these images are blown up into 2ft x 4ft pieces or sometimes larger. They are no longer the feeble bits of plastic that clumsy aunts accidentally trample into the carpet as they race to catch *Coronation Street*, but suddenly, once again, mighty beings blessed with supernatural Jedi power and galaxy-conquering (or saving, if you must) aspirations.

"I feel that LEGO does a great job of taking larger-than-life characters and shrinking them down into adorable, tiny toys," says May. "With *LEGO Wars* I wanted to reverse that and restore these characters to epic proportions, showing details in the toys that are not easily visible with the naked eye. When kids come to the gallery, these once tiny toy figures tower over them. I also felt that it was important to dwarf them within the frame, leaving headroom above the figure, which kept the kid-like quality of the original toy."

Making these toys appear big and imposing is one thing, but May, who loves street art almost as much as he adores *Star Wars*, has also successfully infused his subjects with daring levels of 'hip', making them the latest 'cool' darlings to invade America. Vibrant colours burst out of Stormtrooper parades. C-3PO's droid →

"VADER WAS NOW AN INCH TALL, IN DANGER OF BEING EATEN"





LEGO WARS

armour dazzles against a Louis Vuitton backdrop (that's the French fashion house, by the way). Chewbacca is so shiny you almost need a pair of top quality shades to look at him. Oh, and the galaxy's nattiest heroes now have fine choices in what looks like wallpaper, too.

This is pop art meets geeky sci-fi meets American chic; the sort of project with universal, eye-melting appeal. Yet May doesn't take all the credit for the level of detail his images revel in: he tips his hat to LEGO for creating such indelibly detailed toys in the first place.

"The original Stormtrooper design is brilliant, they are some scary motherfuckers," he enthuses. "With my choice of colours, it wasn't about using bright ones, I deliberately used yellow and red, which are warning colours used in most street signs. I spent a lot of time trying different colour options until it was just right."

So is that Yoda's brains hanging out of the back of his head? "Ha, no!" laughs Dale. "That's LEGO's interpretation of Yoda's crazy fly-away grey hair. I had to shoot the front and back of that figure for that reason. I almost like the back shot more than the front."

As May began shooting his subjects and saw their plastic personalities come to life, further

experimentation took hold. He started wondering what it would look like if he X-rayed one of them and found a tiny skeleton inside. May, who embraces digital technology and Photoshop as well as traditional techniques, used digital imaging to provide the answers, creating and manipulating human bones to conform to the LEGO shape.

"The teeth in the skull of the Stormtrooper are an upside-down smile, like their helmets, and the eye sockets match the helmet design as well," he explains with geek-like relish. "I also included metal plates and screws where the trooper had been injured during battle. For these I used my wife's X-rays from when she broke her leg! My latest piece is an X-ray / MRI of Darth Vader, showing all of his mechanical limbs, as well as heart and brain activity caused by midichlorians in his blood cells. There are many hidden messages in this piece, only visible with a magnifying glass. I've hand written messages in his brain ('Come to the dark side') and heart ('I am your father')."

Although the exhibition has been attracting thousands of visitors over recent months, May is currently unaware of George Lucas having ever seen the work. But he has at least won over a few

lesser obvious fans... "The ex-wife of the French president bought some of my pieces but I have no idea who she is," muses May. "I only know that she has great taste in art! I've sold over 60 pieces, but for the most part I have no idea who's bought them. Collectors, advertising creatives and rich parents for the most part. We had a real Stormtrooper walking around during the gallery opening, and when we posted pics diehards came out of the woodwork, berating us because the costume wasn't regulation. That's a mistake you only make once..."

Yet while there are currently no plans to bring the show to the UK ("yet!"), May is keen to stress that you can purchase the works, plus prints, at the Connecticut gallery website, which is something at least.

So just how does photographing shiny little plastic R2-D2s and cute Chewbaccas compare to snapping heavy metal behemoths such as Black Sabbath's Tony Iommi? "Shooting Toni is a lot like shooting a LEGO *Star Wars* figure," confesses May with casual, shoulder-shrugging ease. "He pretty much just stands there, but looks awesome doing it." ¹⁸

For more visit Samuelowengallery.com and Dalemayphotography.com

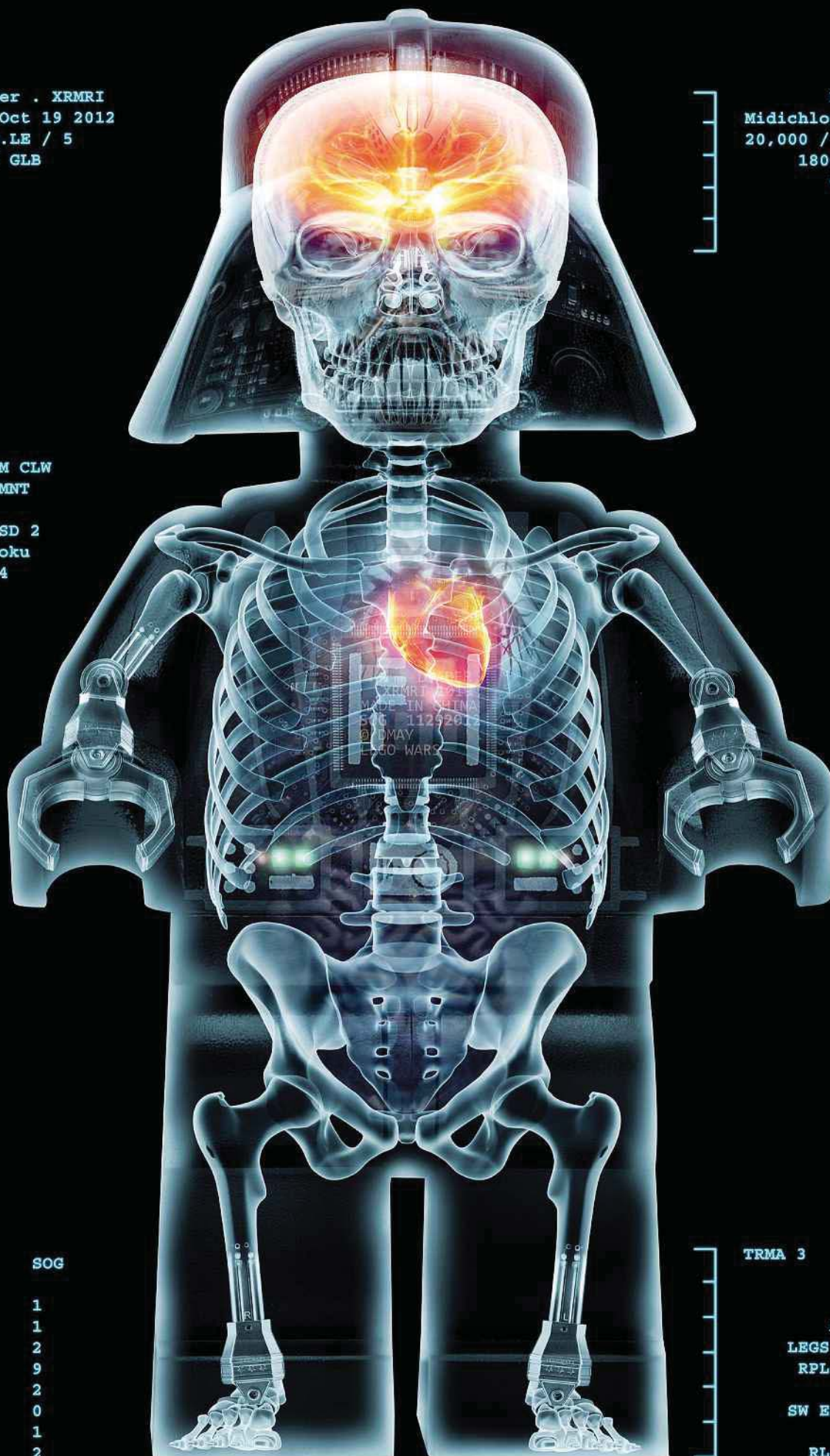
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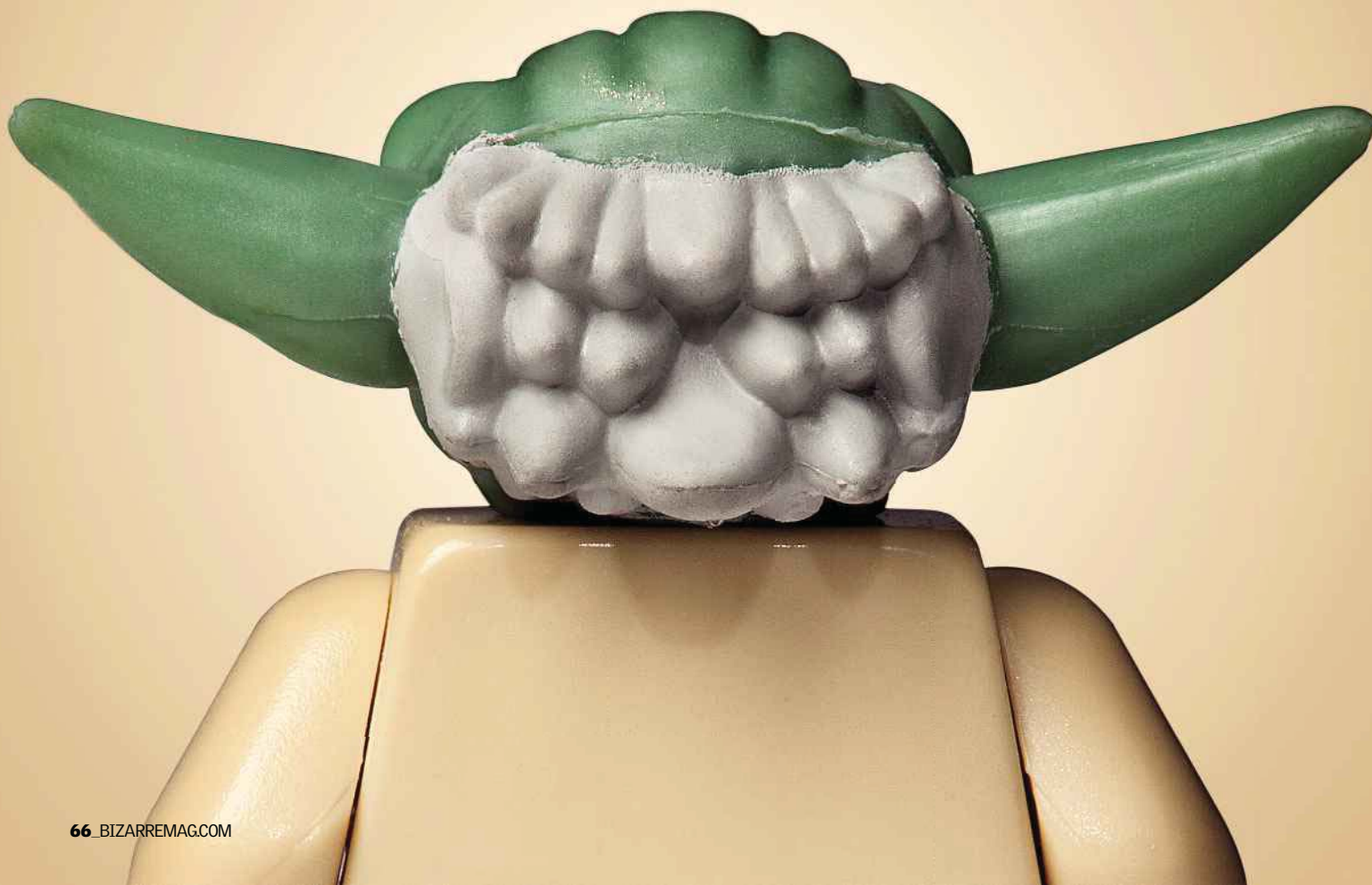
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Taste's
like chicken...
FOWL!

After his finger had to be surgically removed following a motorcycle accident, Dave Playpenz took it home, cooked it – and ate it. Ladies and gentlemen, please give him a big hand (because he's only got half of one) as he tells his tale exclusively to *Bizarre*... →



SELF-CANNIBAL

We don't mean to point the finger, but we're pretty sure that Dave Playpenz wins the title of 'Strangest Thing Ever Eaten By a Bizarre Interviewee' – hands down. Over the years, we've grilled many a celebrity on the weirdest substances they've ever gulped along their gullet and into the gastric juices of their guts, and we've had some gloriously gross answers – from tacos filled with fried worms, to live goldfish, to “my wife's asshole” (Kevin Smith loves taking his tongue for a spin around Brown Town, it seems). However, only Dave Playpenz can legitimately claim cannibalism, having eaten the entire little finger of his own right fist.

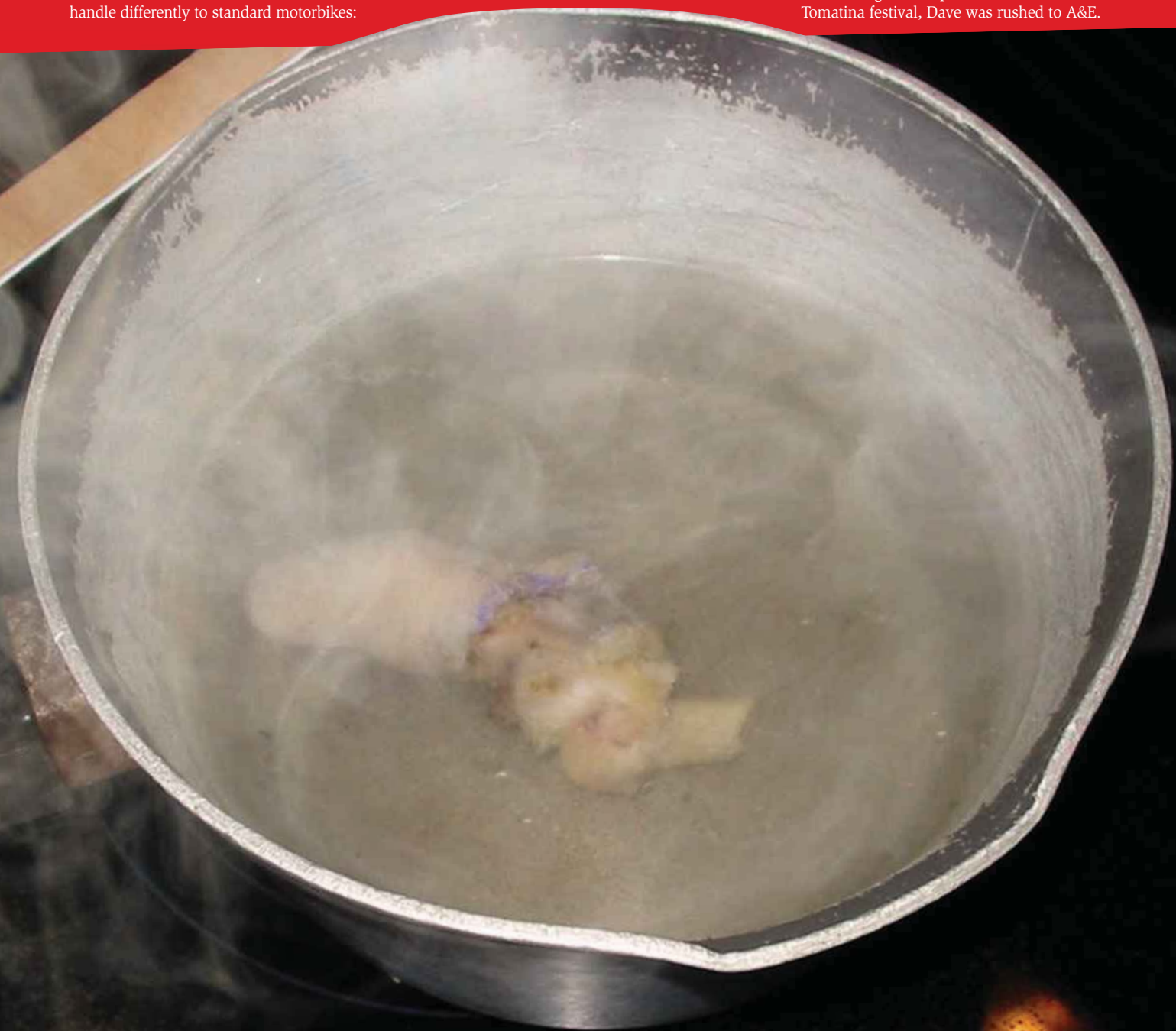
Dave's nail-biting story begins in 2001, at Mallory Park motorsport track in Leicestershire. He's an avid motorcycle enthusiast, and at that point was taking part in amateur races, riding a 1947 BSA bike with a sidecar. Sidecar bikes handle differently to standard motorbikes:

when going around corners, the driver himself cannot lean into the bends or the sidecar might flip over; instead, the passenger in the sidecar has to hang their body as far out of the vehicle as they can in order to weigh it down, skimming thrillingly – and perilously – close to the ground in the process. Get *too* close, and the track hurtling past you will act like a giant rotary sander, grinding off clothing, skin, muscle, sinew and bone. On this occasion, Dave was astride the bike and he and his passenger were hurtling round a hairpin curve when their front wheel was clipped by competing rider. Their bike somersaulted, and while his co-rider was – amazingly – thrown free and didn't sustain any significant injuries, Dave landed beneath the wreckage, and his right arm was pinned beneath the bike's handlebars as it skidded across the track, shredding his flesh off onto the tarmac.

HELL ON WHEELS

“I was wearing full leather protective gear and a helmet, and at first I didn't register any pain in my hand – I was too preoccupied with the agony in one of my legs,” recalls Dave. Dazed and shocked, he twice tried to stand up but fell over, and deliriously pulled off his boot within the 40 seconds it took paramedics to reach him. “There was a gaping hole in my foot, flooded with blood, where part of the bike's machinery must have gouged through my boot, and most of my big toenail had been ripped out,” he recounts. “I was busy gawping at this when my passenger said, ‘Er, Dave, you might want to check out your right hand...’. I pulled off my glove, and my mitt was totally mangled; it looked like a knackered old paintbrush, all frayed and jagged and spiked, with various fibres and bits of bone sticking out at angles they really shouldn't have been!”

Blanched like a bag of almonds at this stage and looking like Casper's anaemic cousin at the Tomatina festival, Dave was rushed to A&E.





“THE PERVERSE POSSIBILITY CAME TO ME SPONTANEOUSLY”

However, as the ambulance pelted toward Leicestershire Royal Infirmary, a passenger in a car in oncoming traffic suffered an epileptic fit (possibly triggered by the flashing blue lights); bizarrely echoing what had just happened on the racetrack, the driver panicked and crashed into the front wheel of the emergency vehicle, knocking Dave onto the floor once again! Two more ambulances arrived, one finally getting Dave to hospital. “By this point, the shock and adrenaline had started to wear off, and I truly was in a phenomenal amount of pain,” he winces. “I was given morphine, which made me high as a kite... and may have affected my decision to sit up and watch when surgeons announced they’d only need to top me up with a local anaesthetic before operating on my hand. Mind you, I generally like doing things others might find gruesome, weird, or stomach-churning. I found the procedure fascinating to view, although I’m not sure the doctors loved being studied while they worked!”

FINGER ON THE PULSE

Medics needed to remove the last third of Dave’s right little finger, and he’s not convinced they

used the right techniques. “It was necessary to smooth the splintered, sharp end of my finger bone before sewing my digit back up, otherwise it would have pierced through the skin and continually reopened the wound,” he reasons, “but rather than using a saw and then a file, instead I watched them chip bits off using a scalpel, against the bone’s grain. I’m sure this caused my the problems that occurred over the next year.” As his finger healed, the tendons pulled back on the remaining misshapen bone, swivelling it sideways inside the aggravated skin until the digit “looked like a hammerhead shark”. A second op fixed this issue by severing the tendons and straightening everything back out, but left Dave with an appendage that was permanently cold, with a creeping blueish hue – ominous signs that life-threatening gangrene would set in if it was not removed completely, all the way to the palm. It was time to wave a three-fingered bye bye to Dave’s digit... and the moment that ‘Brain’ got a whole new idea about what to do with ‘Pinky’.

“The idea of eating my own pinky finger honestly didn’t pop into my mind until I was in

pre-med, about to sign the consent forms to have that final bout of surgery,” grins Dave. “While I’d not been too bothered about losing the tip, losing the whole thing suddenly felt far more significant; they were going to cut off my entire digit, a complete part of me, and a significant section of my hand...” At the time Dave was working as a welder; his job depended on him being good with his hands, and yet he was told he’d have to have an occupational therapist re-teach him how to hold things and perform everyday tasks with only three fingers on his dominant arm. “It struck me, powerfully and immediately, that this was a bigger deal than I’d allowed myself to fully contemplate, and that I ought to make it momentous, to mark it somehow,” he remembers. “The perverse possibility of consuming my own amputated body part came to me spontaneously, but straight away I was insistent that I was going to carry the concept out, and I refused to give the hospital my signature unless they’d give me my lopped-off finger in return.” Since the finger didn’t carry a contagious disease and didn’t need to be sent away for testing, doctors reluctantly agreed to →

SELF-CANNIBAL

Dave's demands. We're sure it's not the only time cheeky chappy Dave's been 'given the finger', but it must certainly be the most memorable!

HANDWICH, ANYONE?

Our handyman hero was on the recovery ward for two days, during which time his disembodied pointer was stored in sealed, transparent plastic jar, apparently "in a fridge in the nurses' break room, where they kept milk for their tea and coffee", although according to Dave, it looked "more like it had been sitting in a bathtub when I received it – white, wrinkly, and resembling a dollop of dripping". Back home, another couple of days later, he placed it in a pan of boiling salted water, and simmered it for around 25 minutes. "I suspected it would taste better if I fried or roasted it," he says, "but I'd decided I wanted to keep the bones, and boiling would separate the flesh from them without causing any damage or burning." Cooking complete, he popped the pinky on a plate, ground a little black pepper over it, and commenced nom-nomming his own body. "I'll admit to being a tad apprehensive before taking that first bite, but I was also very excited to be experiencing something that hardly anyone on this planet ever does: eating human flesh.

"I had a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to taste the taboo, and it seemed like I shouldn't pass it up. As I mentioned, I do feel an attraction to the darker, odder elements of existence that turn many people off." The meal had become a sort of ritual for Dave, too, a kind of therapy: by eating his sacrificed finger, and reabsorbing this into his body, he felt that he was reclaiming it on some level. "Psychologically, it did me a lot of good," he muses. "The eating added elements of humour and self-control to a trauma that was otherwise severely lacking in such positive sensations."

So, like so many other supposedly 'unusual' meats, do Homo sapiens taste like chicken? Or do we human beings have a flavour that's more like 'human bean'? "My finger didn't really taste of much at all, but the cooking process made my kitchen absolutely reek of pork!" Dave reveals. "It was important to me that I prepared and ate my flesh while alone, giving me privacy to quietly

contemplate what I was doing, so I picked a time when my then-girlfriend was out of the house; when she got back, with no clue about what I'd done, she inhaled the simmered finger smell and asked if I'd made gammon for dinner!" Bringing a whole new meaning to the term 'finger food', Dave's mortal-meat menu began with a starter of him picking up his finger in his, um, remaining fingers, and nibbling all the skin, muscle, and sinews off his dead digit, which he reports was "extremely gristly". For the main course, he "peeled away the caps of hard white material covering the joints", chopped them into tiny pieces, and swallowed them, as they were too tough to chew. Finally, he sipped some of the "bland" stock from the saucepan, before rinsing and drying the bones, which he now keeps in a cigar tube. When he finds a jeweller he can trust, he intends to have them made into an articulated necklace, with hinges between each knuckle so the pinky skeleton moves in the same way it did when it was still attached to his hand. "None of my finger has been wasted: I've eaten the meat and will wear the bones, so somehow I feel like

I've lost less, and for me it's been a novel way of coming to terms with an accident that changed my body and my life significantly" he reflects.

When phrased like that, the psychology of Dave's auto-cannibalism seems quite rational; certainly, his actions have not harmed anyone, or even had significant effect on anyone but himself. He never had any concerning fixation or ambition to eat his own meat; rather, snacking on his amputated appendage was a kooky way of 'making the most of a bad situation', and it was only removed for medical reasons. However, the idea of consuming human flesh is intrinsically abhorrent to most people; cannibalism tends to be associated with voodoo, torture, savagery, severe mental illness, and serial killers who ate parts of their victims, like Jeffrey Dahmer and Albert Fish. Does Dave get negative reactions to his story from those who automatically associate cannibalism with deviance, or who are simply grossed out? "People have occasionally been disgusted, but if I suspect someone has the type of character that will be offended or sickened by my tale, I don't share it with them," he says. →

"MY FINGER DIDN'T REALLY TASTE OF MUCH BUT MADE MY KITCHEN REEK!"



CAN-NIBBLES

Want to try eating human flesh yourself? The Eat Your Heart Out online shop means you (almost) can...

Eat Your Heart Out is a collective of marvellously macabre artists, headed up by a dirty-minded 'Vice Captain' (or captain of vice) named Miss Cakehead. They specialise in producing unusual and revolting edible atrocities, from Castrated Chocolate Testicles to Fungus-Infected Toe Cookies and cocktails designed to look like someone's stomach has been pumped into a glass to a full-size 'human abattoir'.

We've mentioned them a couple of times before in *Bizarre*, but now some of their creations and concoctions are available to buy online, including solid white chocolate lifelike babies' heads. Check out Thinkgeek.com to get a lunchbox that looks like a human transplant organ cooler, too. If you've got the canni-balls, that is.

[Etsy.com/shop/EvilCakehead](https://etsy.com/shop/EvilCakehead)



SELF-CANNIBAL



"The most common reaction is fascination. Even strictly vegan friends have said that they understand the 'spiritual' side to what I did."

CANE FURNITURE

Dave himself isn't vegan; in fact, he's been known to eat roadkill, and as well as housing an impressive collection of three-fingered figurines,



the quality, safety and limited range of BDSM equipment he'd seen in fetish clubs, Dave decided to use his welding skills to custom-make his own bespoke flogging benches, crosses, stocks, spanking stools, and four-poster beds incorporating padlocked slave cages beneath them, pulleys for suspending intricately-tied submissives during rope bondage sessions,



light enough to transport, totally idiot proof, and easy to clean; I've rented toys to a few hardcore gay clubs where the amount of shit, spunk and lube everything's covered with defied belief."

While monitoring his furniture in various dungeons and play rooms, Dave's witnessed S&M practices that would only make the most extreme fetishist's mouth water, and everyone else's eyes stream. He's seen a man having chunks of peeled fresh ginger and sliced chillis forced into his pee pipe; got to know a bloke whose arsehole was sewn up with a needle and thread by his mistress after he farted following a fisting session; marvelled at the bruising after a gent lifted a 2.5 stone metal ball and chain with his Prince Albert piercing; and met a chap who liked to hang out in the smoking areas at female worship nights and have dommes stub out their cigarettes on his tongue, or pull back his foreskin, rest the lit end of a fag on his bell end, then ping his skin over the top to hold it in place while it burned him. Unsurprisingly, he's also met people intrigued by the sexual possibilities of a three-fingered and hence slimmer-profiled hand. But ladies, if you see Dave Playpenz out and about, and you're tempted to give the fine young cannibal your digits, do be careful – he just might scoff 'em. ¹⁸

See more of Dave's bondage furniture at [Playpenz.com](#).

Far more interesting than the never-ending DFS sale

"EVEN STRICTLY VEGAN FRIENDS SAID THEY UNDERSTAND THE SPIRITUAL SIDE"

antique handcuffs and gravestones, his home is covered in deer skins, animal skulls, and the taxidermied or pickled bodies of birds and small rodents that he's "recycled", having found them dead by the side of the motorway during the frequent trips he makes in his van (registration 'P33RVE', plus 'I Love Duct-Tape' bumper sticker). He drives up and down the country on a weekly basis nowadays, running Playpenz: a bondage furniture business he started a year on from his accident. Having been unimpressed with

and sliding shackles on the headboards that allow you to flip a supine partner from their back on to their front without undoing their restraints.

Playpenz crafts items both for private clients' houses and for events, which pose their own interesting engineering challenges. "Private clients often want things that can be easily hidden, like whipping racks that fold up discreetly into wardrobes when not in use," Dave reveals. "Club equipment, however, needs to be easy to disassemble and reassemble and



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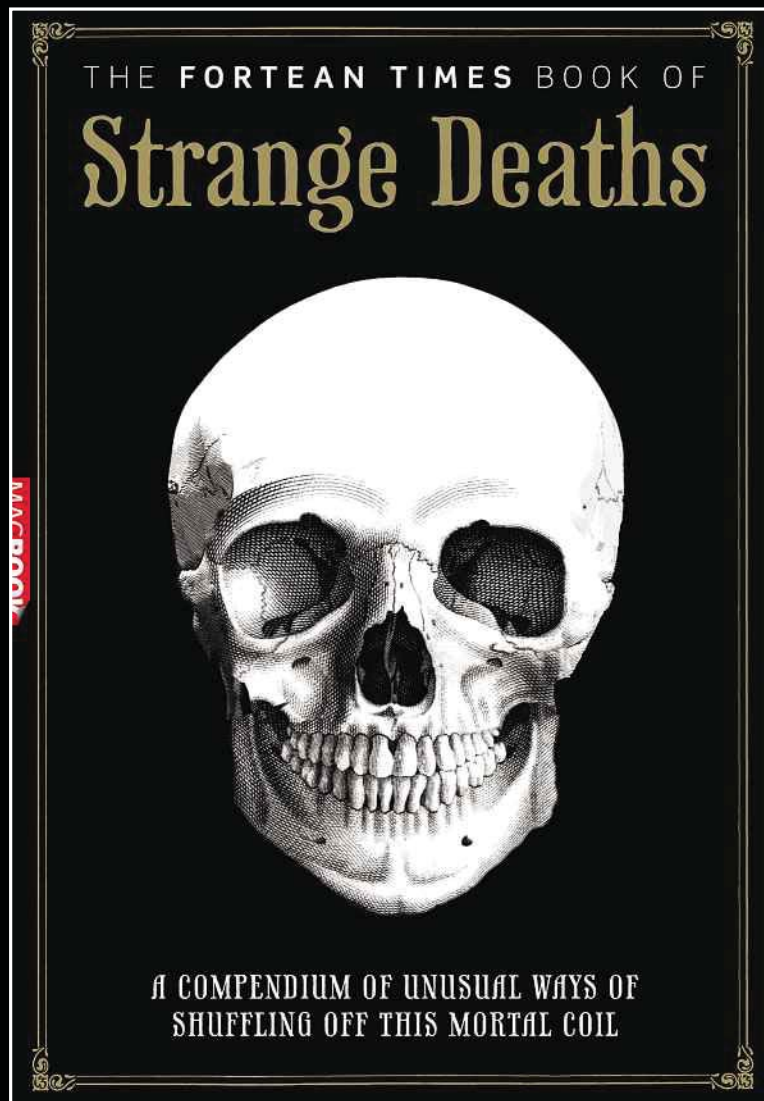
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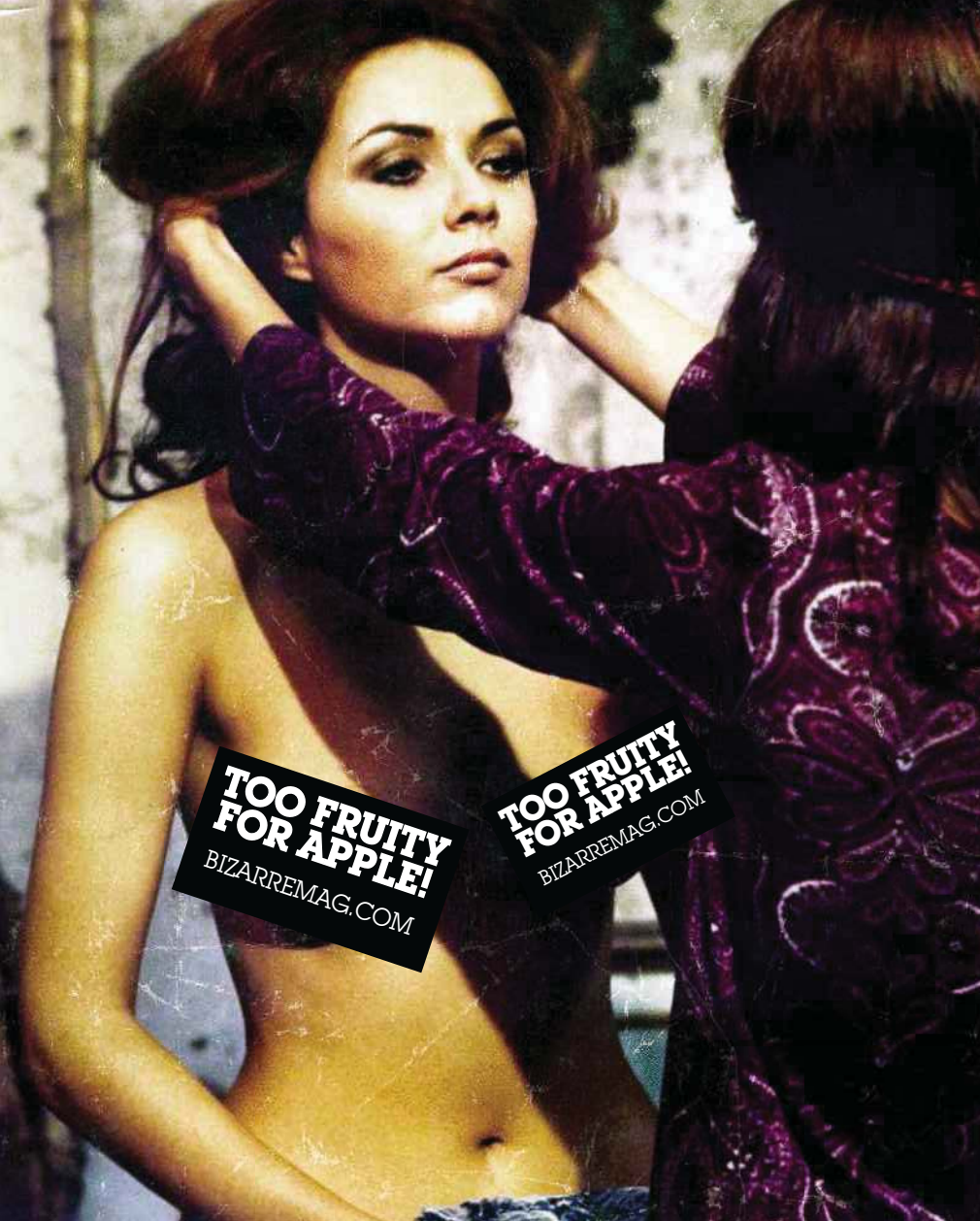
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SEX, FANGS AND ROCK 'N' ROLLIN

For years, Jean Rollin was the quiet, undiscovered master of Euro horror erotica, conjuring up vampire films that were as bizarre as they were deviant. Now, two years after his untimely passing, *Bizarre* pays tribute to the man whose surreal and sultry tales are slowly getting the attention they deserve... →

BIZARREMAG.COM_77

are slowly getting the attention they deserve... →



In a world ravaged by the kinky prime time bloodlusts of *True Blood*, the sappy romancers of *Twilight*, and the truly terrible terrors of *Lesbian Vampire Killers* – one of the steamiest piles of shit *Bizarre* has ever had the displeasure of viewing – it doesn't take a Van Helsing to observe that there is an abundance of vampires fluttering around today's entertainment market.

True Blood is a decent series, we'll give you that one. But just when did vampirism become so, you know, *mainstream*?

There are less obvious alternatives, of course; strange visions provided by outsiders whose ideas are so warped and unique that they offer respite against the conventional bloodsucking. Euro-horror auteur Jean Rollin (1938 – 2010) is one such peddler. An obscure filmmaker and novelist who made more than 20 erotic French chillers between 1968 and 2009 (not to mention his prolific porn output under various pseudonyms), his vampiric visions were surreal, low-budget and occasionally unintentionally funny. But they were

“THESE MAGICAL, DISTURBING FAIRY TALES WERE UNDERScoreD BY EROTICISM”

also dream-like, bizarre and gloomily poetic. Until horror label Redemption started buying up his supernatural work in 1993, his take on the vampire mythos was either unknown or derided. Now observers are slowly treating his flicks with respect rather than contempt, praising them rather than denouncing them, and his cult following is steadily growing.

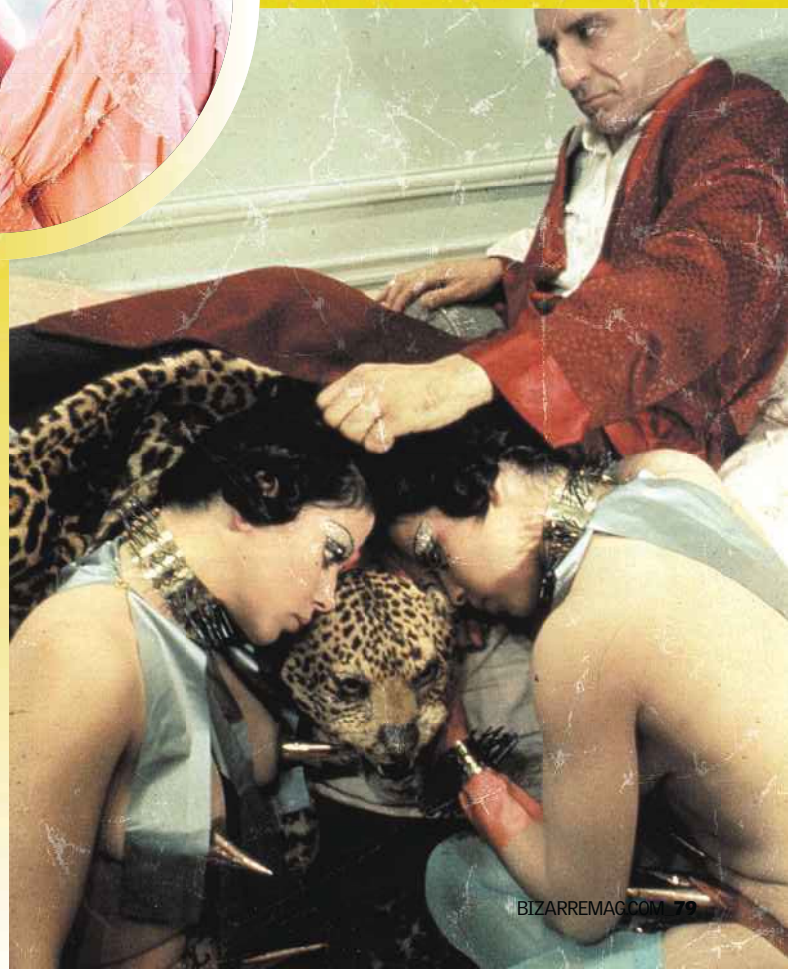
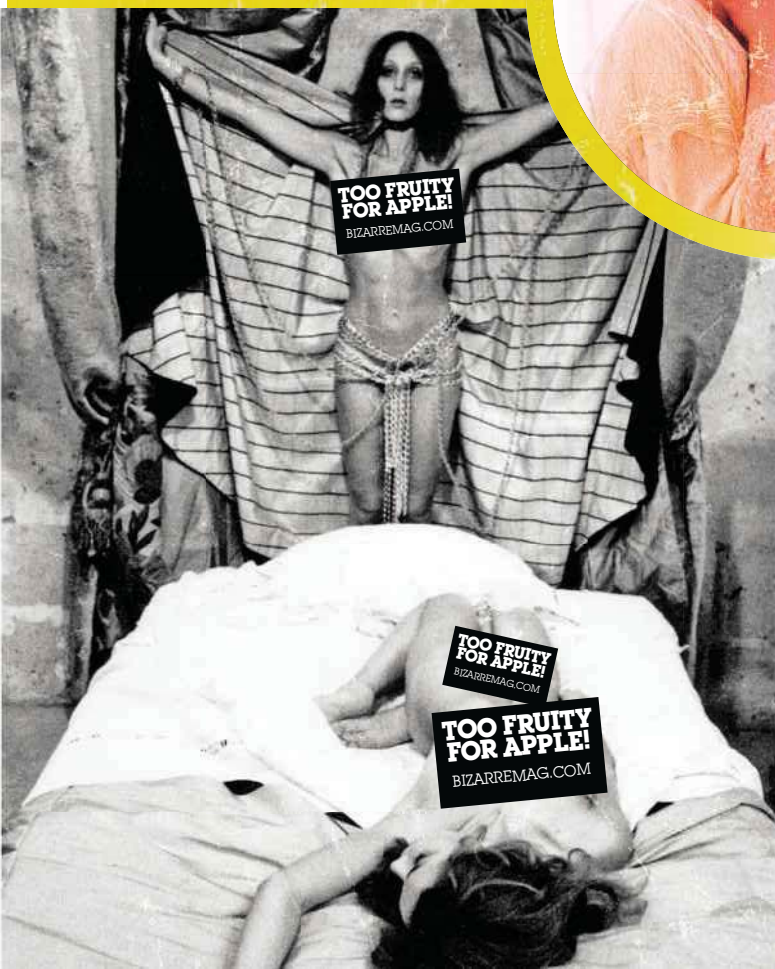
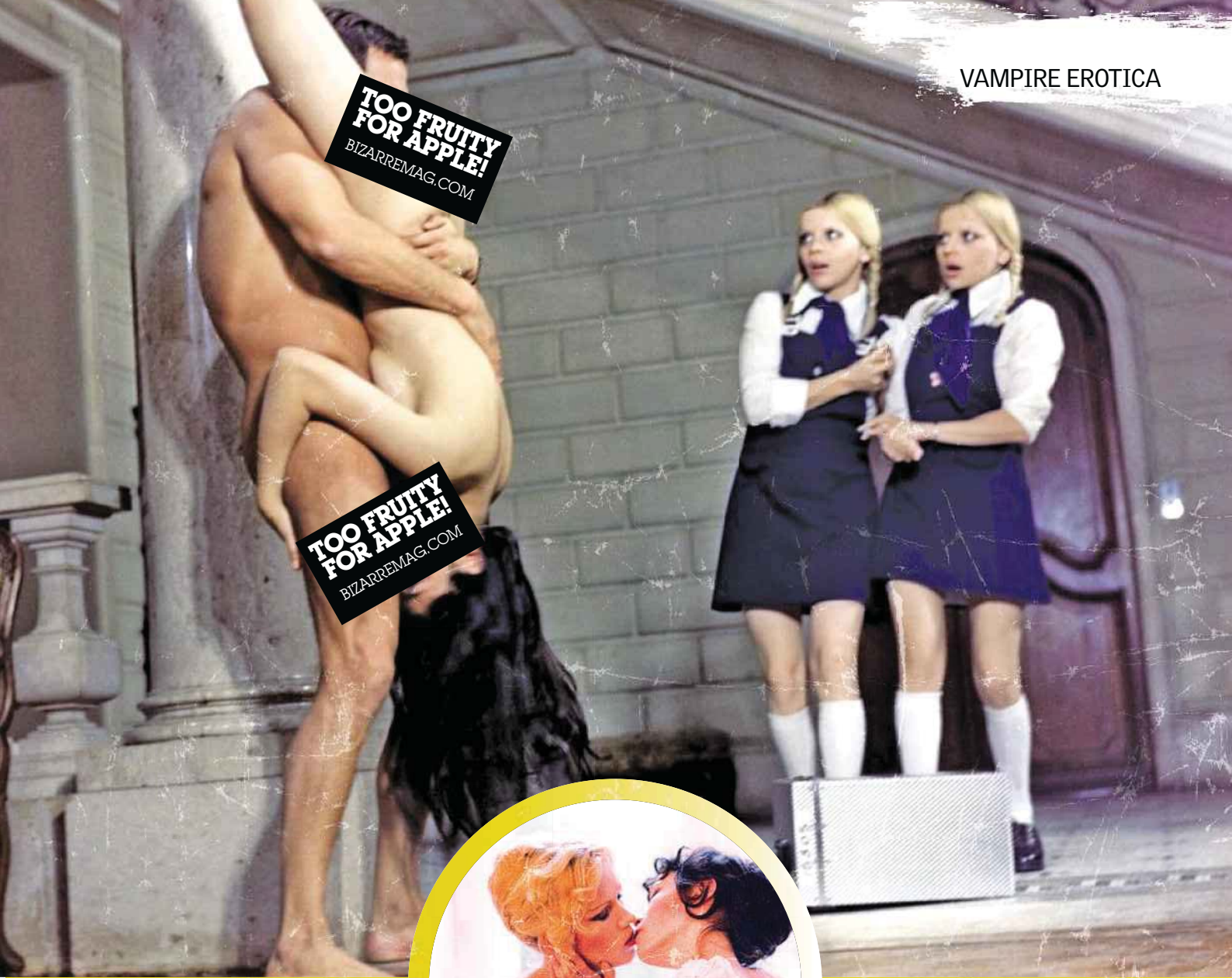
“He made these magical, disturbing fairy tales, which were underscored by strong levels of eroticism,” says Nigel Wingrove, founder of

the cult horror label Redemption, who had personal dealings with Rollin for 17 years. “Rollin was influenced by poetry, surrealism and the fantasy comics of the 1920s-40s. He once told me that his favourite film was *Le Seuil Du Vide*, a strange fantasy from 1971 about a girl who continually ventures through a forbidden door and ends up in this surreal, dream-like world. I've always thought that's like Rollin. He disappears into this magical realm whenever he's creating, and that's where he's at his happiest.”

THE MAN, THE MYTH

Jean Rollin was born in the inner suburbs of Paris, France, on 3 November 1938. At the age of five, he saw an old French film called *Capitaine Fracasse* (1942) and instantly decided he wanted to be a filmmaker. His first hands-on experience with the moving image came as a film editor in the French army. He then progressed to making industrial shorts before being attempting his first feature in the mid-1960s, *The Rape Of The Vampire*, which was originally intended as a 30-minute short, but was extended into a full-length feature when a producer trumped up extra cash. It meant a cast that had been killed off were suddenly raised from the grave. If you found yourself booing during *Lesbian Vampire Killers*, trust us, it was nothing compared to what Rollin faced when *Rape...* took to the big screen.

“That film was released in 1968, during a tumultuous year for France when there were →



VAMPIRE EROTICA

uprisings and riots, people were on strike, and all the sea ports were closed, so there were no other films coming into the country," says Wingrove. "When *The Rape Of A Vampire* screened, people hated it. It had fantastic visuals, but narrative-wise it made little sense. The audience threw things at the screen, and Rollin was literally chased out of the cinema and down the street by an angry mob! He was oblivious to politics. He was offering a vision involving vampires and graveyards while the rest of the country was ready to bring down the government."

Still, as they say in art, a terrible reaction is better than no reaction at all, and Rollin, who gratefully survived the attack, garnered enough industry interest and notoriety to set him off towards his macabre dream. As well as churning out numerous vampire-themed novels with factory-like proficiency, he made films as weird, startling and downright baffling as *The Shiver Of The Vampires* (1970), *Lips Of Blood* (1975) and *The Two Orphan Vampires* (1997). There was also the occasional non-vampire horror / drama, such as zombie oddball *The Grapes Of Death* (1978),

and *The Demoniacs* (1974), the latter starring the gorgeous Joelle Coeur. This tale marked a slightly different tone to Rollin's usual fare, focusing on a pair of shipwrecked sisters who are raped and left for dead by thieves. The sisters respond by befriending a jolly clown (as you do), and enlisting the help of Satan to exact revenge on their perpetrators. "That film wasn't much like Rollin's other fantastical films," points out Wingrove, "it was very brutal."

Usually in Rollin's world, buxom beauties gracefully hacked at victims with giant scythes while wearing very little; topless twins pervaded eerie castles to haunting soundtracks, and clowns lay flowers in creepy graveyards with minimal narrative explanation. Rollin operated with little regard for cinematic convention, while actors ad-libbed his loose scripts, resulting in offerings that were about as close to the sappy, glossed world of *Twilight* as a jar of Turkish olives. The results weren't always great, but they were interesting. And filled with hot women.

"Women were certainly a motivation for Rollin, and in real-life he liked to be surrounded

by pretty girls," says Wingrove. "One of my most vivid memories of him was when I gave our Bulgarian work experience girl some expenses money to show him around London for the day. She wore very little in the summer and was very attractive girl. When we reconvened for dinner in the evening, Rollin was the happiest I'd ever seen him!"

SEX FANTASIES

Rollin also had a prolific career as a director of porn films, and he shot around 30 grot flicks under various pseudonyms. Among them included *Emmanuelle 6* (1988) and *Hard Penetration* (1977). There was also a hardcore sex version of *Lips Of Blood* entitled *Suck Me Vampire* (1975), which was essentially the same plot but with filthier scenes. Yet while Rollin kept his porn career relatively separate from his 'fantastique' genre, his films in the latter would nearly all be characterised by the casting of pairs of women in the lead roles, usually as twins or sisters. The ladies inhabiting Rollin's world would be strong, feisty and sexually-empowered. They would be

WOMEN WERE STRONG,
FEISTY AND SEXUALLY
EMPOWERED

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THE ROLLIN BONES

Selecting just six of Rollin's weirdest and sultriest erotica chillers wasn't easy, but we've had a stab. All of the following are available through Redemption...



THE RAPE OF THE VAMPIRE (1968)

This was Rollin's first feature-length film, notorious because it resulted in riots between cops and filmgoers when it was eventually shown in 1968. This is essentially a series of short stories and surreal images, woven together in the most bizarre manner possible. As a *Video Watchdog* quote says on the cover, "Like nothing else in the horror genre." You can sure say that again.



THE NUDE VAMPIRE (1969)

Masterly weird tale that opens with a strange scene of men in coloured hoods extracting blood from a woman, before she unsuccessfully tries to flee. It's supposedly about a secret suicide cult and a scientific study of immortality, and sort of maybe involves vampires from another dimension who may or may not be vampires. Or something like that. We think... but best not to think.



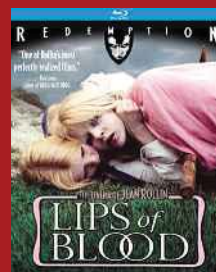
THE SHIVER OF THE VAMPIRES (1970)

A young couple take the unfortunate decision to spend their honeymoon inside a gothic castle, only to discover an Amazonian vampire living inside a grandfather clock, who kills victims with her pointy Madonna breasts. Typically bizarre, it also features hippie vampires (yeah, go figure!) and an awesome prog rock soundtrack to get properly spaced out to.



THE IRON ROSE (1973)

Arguably Rollin's most poetic and gentle work, this vampire-free jaunt takes the simple premise of a couple enjoying a romantic walk through a sprawling graveyard, where they subsequently make love, become trapped, and then start going mad. We figure this is a bit like Edgar Allan Poe on pot. Look out for the clown who lays flowers at a grave because, er, that's what he does.



LIPS OF BLOOD (1975)

A man in the present day (that is, 1975) is beset by strange childhood visions where he finds himself under the care of a beautiful woman in a creaky old castle. He later sees the castle pictured inside a perfume advert and tries to hunt down the girl in his dreams. A film with minimal dialogue, it's notable for a stream of haunting scenes, particularly involving a coffin at the beach. Kinda scary, right?



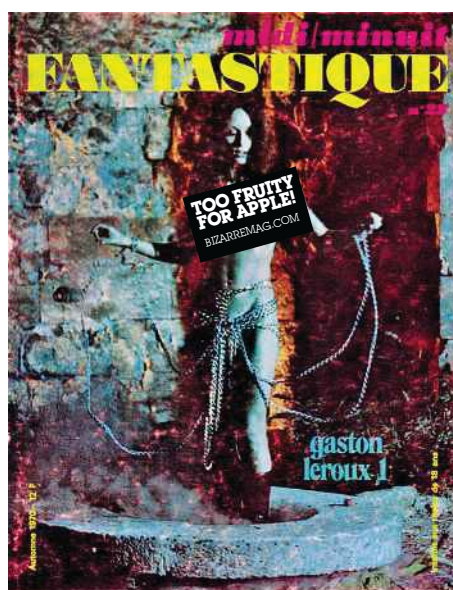
FASCINATION (1979)

A surreal, slow-moving delight featuring lesbian lovemaking and blood ceremonies galore. A crook on the run finds refuge in a huge mansion, in which two beautiful but eccentric women reside. The drama culminates with a delightfully under-dressed Brigitte Lahaie stalking a victim down a causeway with a giant scythe. You can find the scene on YouTube. It's vintage Rollin, and there's more inside.

portrayed and treated with eloquence, and filtered through a European aesthetic. Even though Rollin's films technically fell into the sexploitation camp, he would embrace and emphasise female beauty through soft, strange and exquisite lighting. It was the arty French influence.

"His films would feature plenty of sex scenes, but they were usually very dream-like, and would encompass things like naked girls walking slowly through graveyards," says Wingrove. "There would be many lesbian encounters, but there was nothing gratuitous about the way he portrayed them. In his films, sex and nudity was usually something to be considered as quite beautiful."

Although Rollin celebrated the full female figure, investors and producers would still insist on extra sex scenes in a bid to attract larger audiences to his films. One such instance was *Requiem For A Vampire*, the first film to be released by Redemption, in 1993. It contained a six-minute sequence where two sisters are raped and tortured in a dungeon, and although not treated with considerable explicitness, the stern BBFC (British Board of Film Censors) of the time predictably slashed out the entire sequence. "The first time I met Rollin was in Cannes that year and I told him the news that *Requiem*... had lost that scene," recalls Wingrove. "Jean just laughed and said, 'Well, that's great actually. In fact, it will be a much better film now!'" As it transpired, that scene was only added in at the



end of filming because the producer wanted more sex in the movie. It had no relevance to the story whatsoever."

RIISING FROM THE GRAVE

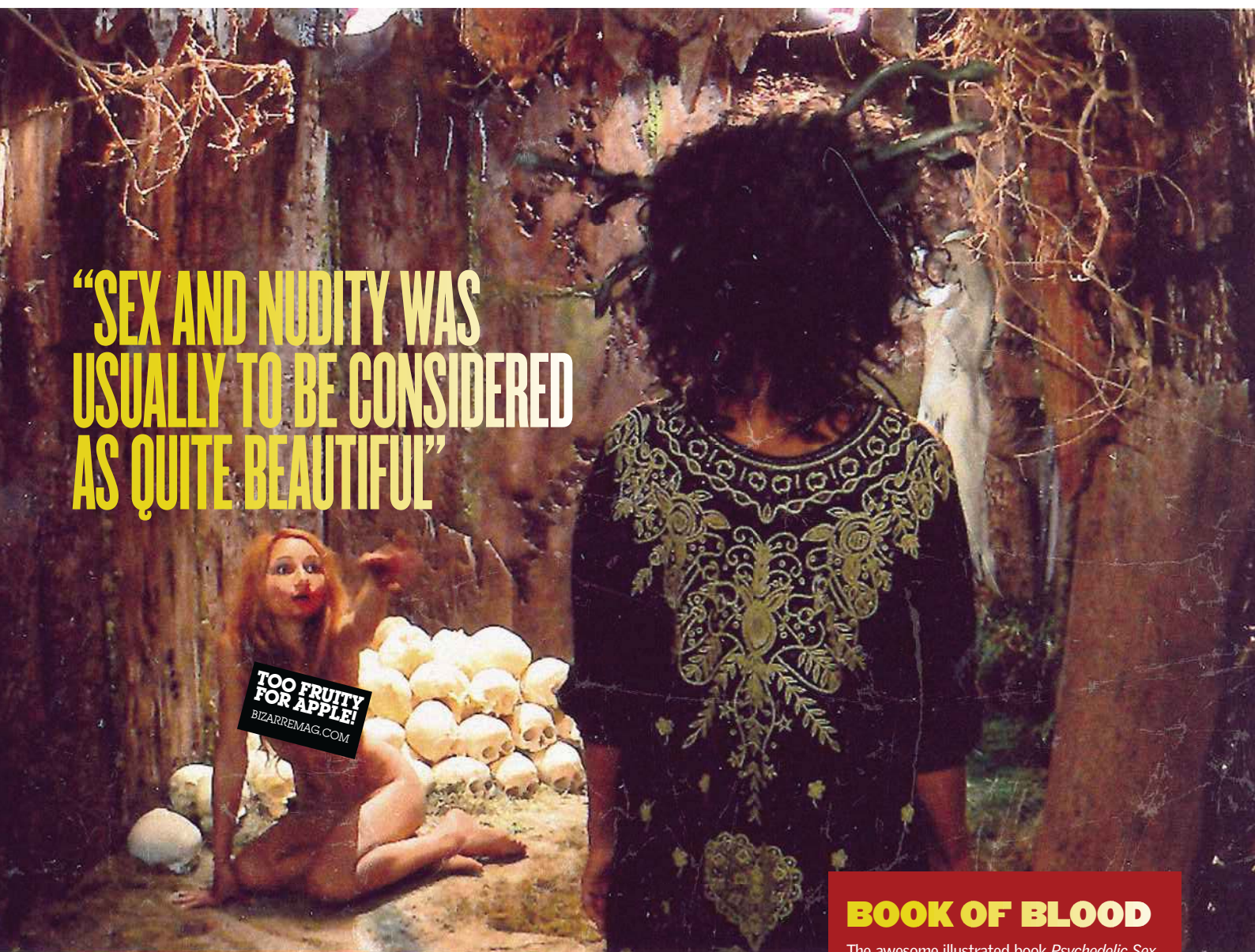
Wingrove first learned of Rollin's work through some "extraordinary" stills in an old book called

The Vampire Cinema by David Pirie. Upon further investigation, Wingrove discovered that the auteur's films were almost impossible to get hold of, or at least watch, for the average movie-goer. Not even French TV were showing them. To Wingrove's knowledge, Rollin's canon of dreamy fright flicks had only previously been released on VHS by an obscure French label in the 1980s. It sent him on a mission to track down all the copyrights. Now Redemption owns virtually all Rollin's feature-length, non-porn films. And, in Wingrove's words, they're selling "pretty well".

Today Rollin is starting to reap the plaudits that eluded him through much of his working career. There are the young fans fascinated by Euro cult cinema in general, who explore Rollin as well as other outsider sexploitation visionaries including Jess Franco and Tinto Brass. Jack Hunter has just written a fantastic new illustrated book to his work, entitled *Psychedelic Sex Vampires*, which hit stores just before Christmas (see boxout). A simple Google search unveils a modicum of fervent Jean Rollin fansites. According to Wingrove, "prestigious cinemas" in Ireland and Germany have been hosting Rollin weekends. The current worldwide popularity for vampires is certainly doing Rollin's legacy no harm either, even if his creatures of the night exist on an entirely different plain to those inhabiting the likes of *Vampire Diaries*. →



**“SEX AND NUDITY WAS
USUALLY TO BE CONSIDERED
AS QUITE BEAUTIFUL”**



Meanwhile, *Redemption* has recently started releasing Blu-ray versions of some of Rollin's films in America through Kino Lorber. With Kino supporting them with a big publicity campaign, mainstream and quality publications such as the *New York Times* are sniffing along the Rollin trail, celebrating his heritage with sizeable articles.

Wingrove views the rising interest with equal sadness and joy. "Really, it's terrible that Rollin never received the attention he deserved during his lifetime," he says. "He had been working on his artistic vision from the mid-1960s, all the way until his death, and people forget that he also wrote a lot of vampire novels as well. Now his reputation is growing and, if he were alive still, he'd love it. He was a creative man and a very hard worker,

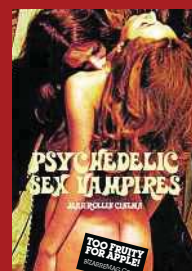
and when he knew his health was failing he wrote his autobiography, and even managed to make two more films in 2009 before he died."

But the one thing that grates Wingrove is journalists and critics exploring Rollin's films for deeper subtexts and meanings that don't exist. To the *Redemption* man, Rollin was simply a maker of unique vampire films that were often sexy, visually striking, and which didn't always make much sense. "I think there's a lot of guff written about him," he says. "Rollin wasn't a genius like Fellini. He just made these interesting exploitation films about vampires, and really that's all he ever wanted to do." **B**

For more on Rollin's films available on DVD, visit Salvation-Films.com

BOOK OF BLOOD

The awesome illustrated book *Psychedelic Sex Vampires*, by Jack Hunter, is out now, available through Glitter Books. As well as stills and posters (some of which you can see on these pages), it also includes an interview with Jean Rollin and an introductory essay on his films. If you want to learn more about Rollin's take on the vampire myth – as well as ogle plenty of pics of naked lesbian bloodsuckers – it makes for highly recommended bedtime perusing. We recommend it rather highly, we do!



Mario Barth
FOR **PETA**

Photo: Sabin Orr • Hair and makeup: Christine Copeland

Ink,
NOT MINK

BE COMFORTABLE IN YOUR OWN SKIN,
AND LET ANIMALS KEEP THEIRS.

WORDS **RACHEL ROGERS**
PICTURES **MATT WRITTLE**

the sadist network

As technology evolves, so does fetish. Instead of going out to clubs, wannabe doms can get online and torture a willing gimp remotely. Spank you very much, internet!

It's Thursday evening, and proceedings are just starting to warm up in an Essex dungeon. Two mistresses, a bunch of nettles, a dog and a smelly toilet are helping one man to live out his wildest fantasies. If I was there, I'm sure I'd be hearing heart-wrenching screams, smelling the rank odour of sweat, and feeling the tension in the air as the gimp's boundaries are demolished.

But I'm not there. I'm getting comfortable at home sitting on my sofa, drinking tea and dishing out orders along with countless other voyeurs online in *Bizarre's* first live remote torture sesh. Welcome to the Real Time Torture, Torment And Exposure Group...

ES-SEX BOY

Like many people, I use Facebook to stalk exes, poke fun at old school friends and procrastinate. I also use it to interact with people I wouldn't necessarily want to meet, at least not without an introduction. These include gimp-suited Slave Essex, co-founder of the Real Time Torture, Torment And Exposure Group.

Slave Essex is a 52-year-old office worker from – you guessed it – Essex. He's been into BDSM for 15 years, and has "a deep urge and need to be hurt and humiliated for the amusement of others". His mistress set up the group so that he could be tortured live via Facebook – something he's never managed to pull off. →





FACEBOOK TORTURE

"Members who liked the group would send me the odd order to get gagged and spanked or to buy them fetish stuff on eBay. I'd happily obey orders and post up pictorial evidence. But I was never very good at getting everyone to come together at once," he confesses.

Usually when yours truly is assigned a fetish report, I have to don a restrictive rubber outfit, negotiate club entry and teeter on crippling heels, only to return in the small hours, exhausted and smelling like an old tyre. So having this wanton subby tortured without having to lift a finger (except to type, of course) sounded like a good idea. And anyway, I'm terrible at saying no.

"Ah, go on then," I type on his page. After a couple of seconds, an excited Essex slave types: "I almost came on my keyboard, thank you!"

The perils of cyber-sex!

While I was sure that Essex was just a needy, excitable exhibitionist, I wanted to make sure that, if he turned out to be a psycho, there would be someone suitable to handle him. I called my mate Malcolm from East London's Dungeons 4 Hire. As I predicted, he was suitably amused by the idea and promised to supply two mistresses and let us use his dungeon, a red-and-black room full of BDSM gear inside his own house.

KNICKERBOCKER GLORY

A week later, I take to my sofa with my laptop while *EastEnders* plays in the background. I'd

announced our plans on the RTTEG group on the *Bizarre* fan page, so there are already quite a few orders for Essex. Some are on the wall, but most are messaged – I'm guessing they don't want family and friends seeing their dirty words.

"Cane his arse till it bleeds," suggests a jolly-looking chef from Bermondsey, London (hmm, I think blood is a step too far).

"Shag him with a strap-on," says a fierce-looking dom from Spain (I'm not sure if Facebook would allow those pictures on their site, plus I really don't want to see poo).

"Put a load of razor blades in a banana and make him eat it," orders a smiley blonde woman (I make a mental note not to add her as a friend).

At 7.45pm there's still no sign of Essex. Getting nervous, I post, "Is anyone there?"

Then at 7.48, he pops up. "Evening Mistress Rogers. I'm so excited. The Mistresses need to clothe me, as I can't show my cock online," he types over Facebook chat. "Do you want to decide what I should wear?"

Woo-hoo, we're on! I ask the group, and it's pretty unanimous that the gimp should wear ladies knickers. Ten minutes later, a photo of Essex looking pensive in black frilly knicks pops up, followed by a chorus of:

"Ahhh, isn't he sweet."

"What a pathetic specimen!"

"Let's see if he can take it like a girl."

"Make him drink a litre of water and don't let

him piss until given permission," orders Ms Slide from London.

"Now that's a good idea," types Lady Of Leather. I assume this is one of the mistresses supplied by Malcolm, so I introduce myself. Lady tells me that she's a 36-year-old pro-dom with, as you can imagine, a penchant for leather. Apparently this is her first online experience.

Eight minutes later, a photo is posted showing one mistress in a leather mini skirt and a mullet wig (I guess this is Lady) and another in a disciplinarian pencil skirt and shirt. Both are forcing a bottle of water down Essex's throat.

"Ooh, I'm getting wet," says a spank-a-holic from Cardiff.

"That's taking the piss," quips Matt from Stevenage.

A RUFF RIDE

Soon, another pic is uploaded showing that the mistresses have tied Essex to a cross. "What should we do now?" asks Miss Conduct, the other dom Malcolm has arranged, who tells me that she's 42 and lives in Chelmsford.

"Peg his nipples," I order on behalf of Mistress X from Cornwall.

"We'll hang him out to dry," types Miss Conduct.

"Laugh at his cock," types Ms Slide.

"We've told him he's got a maggot for a cock," returns Lady.

"I'D HAPPILY OBEY ORDERS AND POST UP PICTORIAL EVIDENCE"





FACEBOOK TORTURE



“I WAS NEVER GOOD AT GETTING EVERYONE TO COME AT ONCE”



“It’s so small I think it’s a clit!” adds Miss Conduct.
 “How’s the gimp doing?” I ask.
 “He says it’s nothing he hasn’t heard before.”
 Oh, really? We clearly need to up our game.
 “Hasn’t Malc got a dog?” I ask.
 “Yeah, Bob. Why?” answers Miss Conduct.
 “Treat Essex like a bitch then make him eat Bob’s dog food.”
 “Lol OK.”
 Another 15 minutes go by and a photo is posted of Essex on his knees eating gravied meat chunks. “He’s not looking very happy,” I type

– not that I can tell, as he’s wearing a gimp mask.
 “He said he was going to vomit. I forbade him. Plus he needs the loo, which is great,” types Lady.
 “Make him clean the bog with his tongue,” types a mistress from Scarborough. I’m just wondering if that’s too much, when Miss Conduct replies, “Great idea!”
 Then there’s nothing for 27 minutes. Quite a few Facebookers leave, and some others join. I’m starting to feel totally left out on my sofa. It sounds like they’re having such a great time in the dungeon!

In the meantime, a message pops up from Lady of Inverness, asking if Malc has any nettles in his garden. “They’ll put a sting in his step.”
 “Ooh, that’s evil,” says Marta from France.
 “Does piss take the pain out of stings?” enquires Mo, from Luton.
 “No, that’s jellyfish,” corrects Madam Payne from London. She’s right as well...

A BOG AND A FLOG

As *News At Ten* starts, I’m actually bursting for the loo but I’m glued to my computer. I can’t believe we’ve been at it for over two hours →



“HE’S A GOOD BOY. DIDN’T WRIGGLE, JUST TOOK IT... WE’LL HAVE TO UP OUR GAME. LET FLOGGINGS COMMENCE!”

and it still feels like we’re just getting warmed up. I guess uploading pics takes time.

“Speaking of piss, I’m bursting haha. Mistress won’t let me go.” Essex is back on the wall.

“How was Malc’s bog?” I type.

“Not as bad as the dog food but I still almost spewed.”

“Enjoying yourself?”

“Yeah, is everyone watching?”

Thus a chorus of “get back to work slave” and “amuse us, you amoeba” ensues.

“Righto. Think Mistress has a surprise for me. Why’s she carrying a load of plants...?”

As the laptop falls silent, my mind runs riot. Is he screaming? Is he laughing? Fifteen minutes later, I get a photo of Essex’s back covered in stings. Ouch!

“He’s a good boy. Didn’t wriggle, just took it. We’ll have to up our game,” Types Miss Conduct.

“Yes, let the floggings commence!” writes Lady, with fire in her belly.

Over the next hour and a half, the Facebookers are treated to a smattering of comments like, “He’s for it now,” and “My cane just broke!”, plus odd photos showed Essex’s bum getting increasingly red. They’re clearly all

having fun and I’m sitting at home feeling totally lonely – even Essex is too busy to bother me.

The next day when I log on, Essex is ready and waiting to gush at me, “That was amazing. Thank you so much Mistress Rachel,” before telling me his next bright idea: “I’d love to get a caning in front of an audience.”

“No,” I reply firmly, and I go back to looking at drunken snaps of the former school bully.

Let that be a lesson! **B**

If you’re interested in the further exploits of Slave Essex, email him at SlaveinEssex@facebook.com.

To book a session at the dungeon visit Dungeon4hire.com

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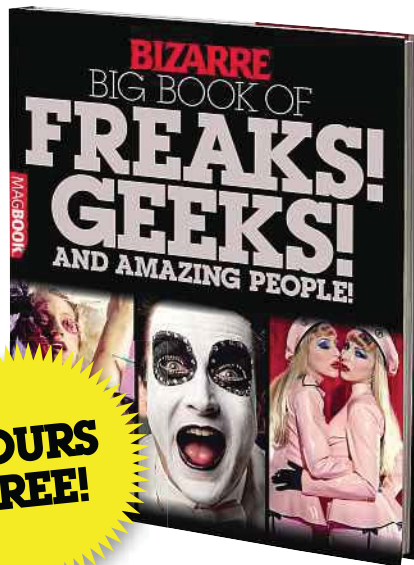
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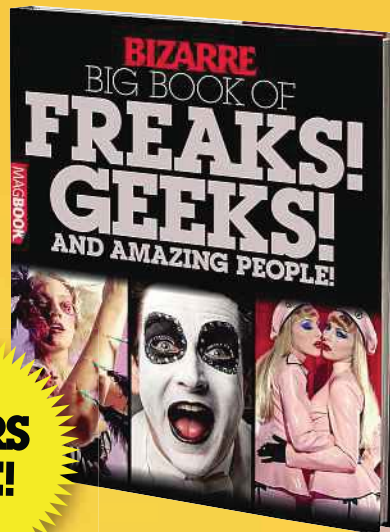
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From Beyond joins our line-up
of distractions in *Hot This Month* 94

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HOT THIS MONTH

Is your spending limited by the icy grip of recession? Then let us help you choose the best stuff money can buy until the next issue of *Bizarre* hits the shelves on **19 MARCH**...

FILM

OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL

How did that man get behind the curtain?

OUT 8 MARCH

If you're going to prequel a well-loved fantasy adventure, you may as well pick the mother of them all. Sam *Evil Dead* Raimi's *Oz The Great And Powerful* takes its premise from Frank L. Baum's 1900 childrens' novel, *The Wonderful Wizard Of Oz*, and tells how small-time, ethically dubious Kansas circus magician Oscar Diggs (James Franco) became the magnificent Wizard Of Oz. As this is a Disney production, you can expect trials and tribulations in a vivid fantasy land, particularly when those pesky witches (Mila Kunis, Michelle Williams and Rachel Weisz) pitch up, to test Diggs and discover if he really is the great wizard the land of Oz has been waiting for. Will his magic stand the test? Can monkeys really fly?





DVD

FROM BEYOND

HP Lovecraft's classic tale gets sexed up

OUT 25 FEBRUARY

Made by the same team that unleashed the delirious *Re-Animator*, *From Beyond* was intended to be the second in a series of modern adaptations of HP Lovecraft's classic horror tales. Unfortunately, while director Stuart Gordon eventually returned to Lovecraft's work a decade later with *Castle Freak* and *Dagon*, horror fans were deprived of regular

Lovecraftian thrills on the big screen, and we're still waiting for the ultimate adaptation of the writer's cosmic work. Although not as much fun as its zombie precursor, *From Beyond* is still a run romp that injects sex, S&M and gore into Lovecraft's cautionary tale of the dangers of trying to see what lurks beyond normal human vision.

MUSIC

BROADCAST

Sounds awesome!

THE BERBERIAN SOUND STUDIO



OUT NOW

Despite coming out in early January, there was just no way we could *not* blurt about how special this movie soundtrack is,

no matter how late we were. Featuring lead singer Trish Keenan, who recorded parts of it before tragically dying of pneumonia in 2011, the Brummie indie-experimentalists lend a goosebumpingly eerie accompaniment to Peter Strickland's postmodern giallo thriller (also out now), blending proggy organs, spectral ambience and lots of deranged muttering into one big Goblin hat-tipper.



GAME

CASTLEVANIA: LORDS OF SHADOW MIRROR OF FATE

This is just a saga now ...

OUT 8 MARCH, NINTENDO 3DS

Set 25 years after *Castlevania: Lords Of Shadow*, *Mirror Of Fate* once again allows you to steer the fate of the vampire-bothering Belmont family. In this latest quest, Trevor Belmont (yes, Trevor!) and his son are intent on revenge against their father, Gabriel, who brutally murdered his own wife. But despite being

exiled from his homeland, Gabriel has returned, and has taken up residence in a creaky old gothic castle. Worse, Trevor's old man has now transformed into the most powerful vampire of them all, Dracula. Sure, the plot's mad as a bag of spanners, but *Mirror Of Fate* is packed with over 25 hours of intense combat, magic and exploration. So count us in!

BOOK

THE TRELLBORG MONSTROSITIES

RPG / fiction crossover gets *Bizarre's* thumbs up

JOHN HOULIHAN
OUT NOW



HP Lovecraft terror meets WW2 action in this cunning novella that also doubles up as a die-rolling RPG scenario you can play with chums. Written by John Houlihan of Computerandvideogames.com, it's set

in 1943 during World War 2, and follows a British Special Forces crew who encounter ungodly things in a Norwegian village (and we don't mean a drunk Manchester United supporter's group). It's the first of RPG / fiction crossovers from the all new *Achtung! Cthulu* series so, if you dig it, there will be plenty more where this came from.



MANIAC

Elijah Wood gets wiggy in this hair-raising role for a charming fella who once wouldn't say boo to a troll

OUT 15 MARCH

ON A SCALE OF 10, THIS FILM

about a young chap named Frank who's stricken with an unhealthy compulsion to stalk, slay and scalp hot babes, rates a full-on bloody 11. It's an off-the-meter score that's not just based solely on the sick on-screen shenanigans, but also on the fact that the killer is played with such stomach-churning conviction by ex-Hobbit Elijah Wood – who would've thought those bush baby eyes could display such menace?

Frank is a mannequin restorer by trade who, thanks to abuse courtesy of his promiscuous mom when he was a kid, has difficulty forming relationships with the opposite sex. Hence he does what his profession requires, then sticks the scalps of real beauties on his dummies to create a harem of lovelies that will neither leave nor abuse him. When Frank unexpectedly starts getting close to a girl, it looks as though his life is on the up... but you know there's not going to be a happy ending!

A remake of William Lustig's 1980 cult classic, director Franck Khalfouri's

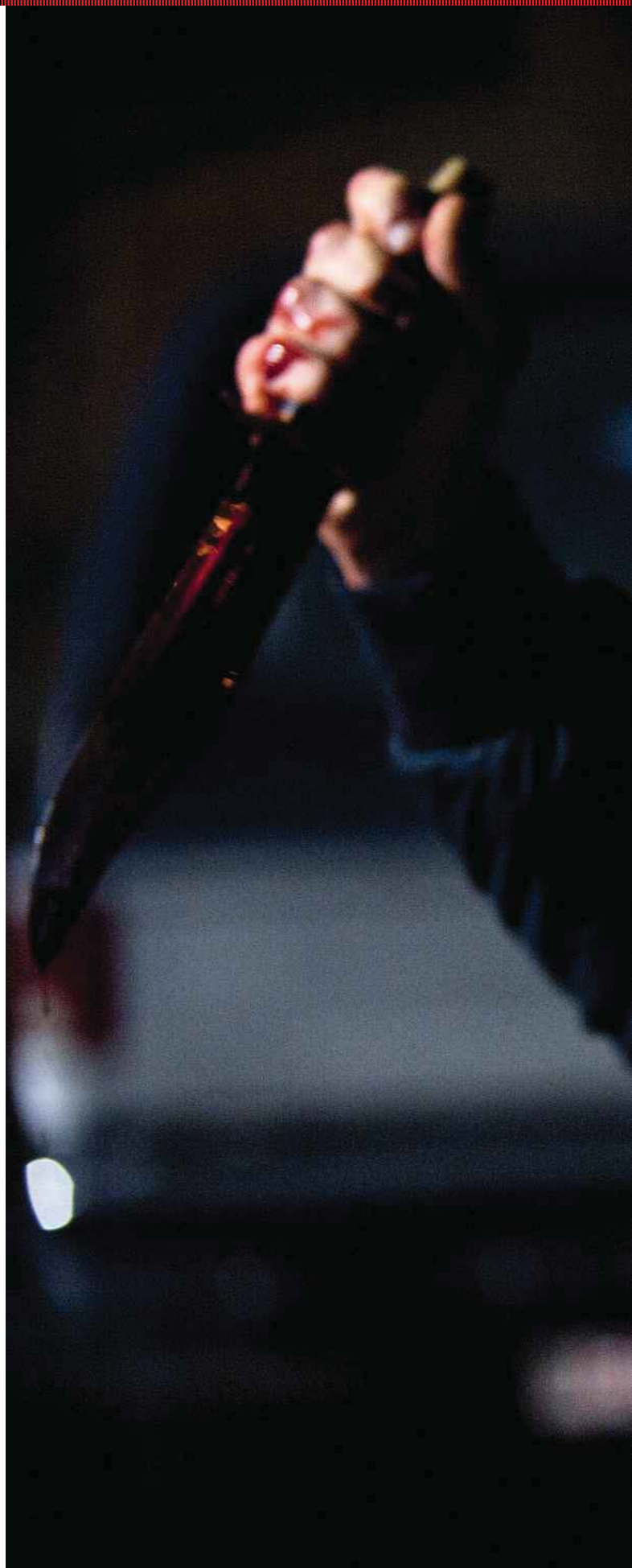
version outdoes the original in every department, particularly in the manner it's shot – almost entirely from the killer's point of view. This technique leaves the viewer no option but to take a walk through the dark side of Frank's psyche; experiencing his every thought and action as he battles with his inner

**THE KILLER IS
PLAYED WITH
STOMACH-
CHURNING
CONVICTION
BY EX-HOBBIT
ELIJAH WOOD**

demons and lets rip in gore-drenched, orgiastic fits of murder and mutilation.

Although 2013's just begun, *Maniac* looks destined to go down as being one of the most brutal, visceral, and creative horror flicks of the year.

Billy Chainsaw



THE **BEST NEW FILMS** COMING
TO A BIG DARK ROOM NEAR YOU

THE
SQUEALER



**MORE FILMS
THIS WAY!**



STOKER

We are family

OUT 1 MARCH

BLOOD, SEX, DEATH AND

a troubled teenage girl in a forbidding, claustrophobic American gothic landscape... you've seen it all before, right? Well, no you haven't. Korean Director Park Chan-wook's English language horror debut is a super-stylish and tension-laden tour de force that coaxes first-rate performances out of a stellar cast that includes Nicole Kidman as the simultaneously hot'n'frosty mother of troubled innocent, Mia Wasikowska.

Add Matthew Goode as the magnetic, malevolent Uncle Charlie and you have all the ingredients for a disturbing, sexy, psychological mystery thriller packed full of Hitchcockian visual ticks and a strong, bloody aftertaste that will live with you for weeks.



CRAWL

It's a bad way to do business

OUT 25 FEBRUARY

THERE'S PLEASURE IN WATCHING

a great film that goes deeper than simply enjoying the story or falling for the characters. Often, this pleasure comes from a shared appreciation of the filmmakers' influences and references – and Paul China's *Crawl* achieves this with panache. It's a classic 'stranger in the house' chiller, but handled with a care and craftsmanship that acknowledges its roots in the Coen Brothers' dark humour, and Hitchcock's mastery of lighting, mood and personalities. Plotwise, it's the story of a repellent bar owner (Paul Holmes) who orders a hit on a local garage owner over a bad deal gone wrong. Romantic barmaid Marilyn (Georgina Haig) is waiting for her boyfriend to return, in the expectation that tonight is the night he will propose. Instead, she finds herself trapped with a taciturn and nameless Croatian hitman. Masterful camerawork and a menacing score are the real stars of the show, and China's subtle skills will keep you hooked until the end credits.



REIGN OF ASSASSINS

Who will buy my flaming sword?

OUT 15 FEBRUARY

REIGN OF ASSASSINS IS AN

everyday tale of stone cold killers, the magical mummified corpse of a Buddhist monk, death, honour, back-to-front organs and, of course, romance. When the Dark Stone gang's top assassin, Drizzle (Kelly Lin), skewers the corrupt Prime Minister's son, she becomes a target for her former gangster pals. Hiding out with a monk, Wisdom, Drizzle learns that her sword

technique is flawed, and vows to leave her violent past behind. Time passes, and now with her appearance altered (she's now Michelle Yeoh) Drizzle lives a new, peaceful life, until she displays some nifty blade-work when foiling a bank raid, revealing her true identity to the Dark Stone gang. Director Su Chao-pin's complex masterpiece is co-helmed by John Woo, and showcases Yeoh's martial arts skills in an uplifting tale of tragedy and love.

THE BAY

Come on in, the water's bubbly

OUT 1 MARCH

A REAL LIFE ECO-DISASTER FROM

2009 and the popular penchant for found-footage inspire Barry Levinson's chiller twists in this terrifying fable about what might actually be happening in Chesapeake Bay. Yep, it turns out there's something nasty in the water, and it's decimating the town... Isopods! Flesh-eating aquatic

woodlice, to be precise, re-engineered by the chemical dumping that has turned the bay into a poisonous soup. *The Bay* is a lo-fi outing that transcends its limitations to ratchet up the terror and confusion, culminating in a Fourth of July celebration that's goes *horribly* wrong. Despite no stars or big budget effects, *The Bay* is artfully crafted to keep you out of the sea. Forever.





MIDNIGHT SON

Care to join me for a... drink?

OUT 11 FEBRUARY

VAMPIRE FLICKS FALL INTO

three categories: those that portray the blood-suckers as killing machines à la *Near Dark*, the broody-to-the-state-of-anemia *Twilight* sparklers, and more ambiguous affairs such as George A Romero's *Martin*. This tale of a young man forced into a nocturnal existence because he suffers from a rare skin disorder definitely jumps

aboard the Romero 'is he or isn't he a neck-biter' category. That doesn't mean it blatantly rips-off *Martin*'s central theme of paranoid delusion, though – far from it.

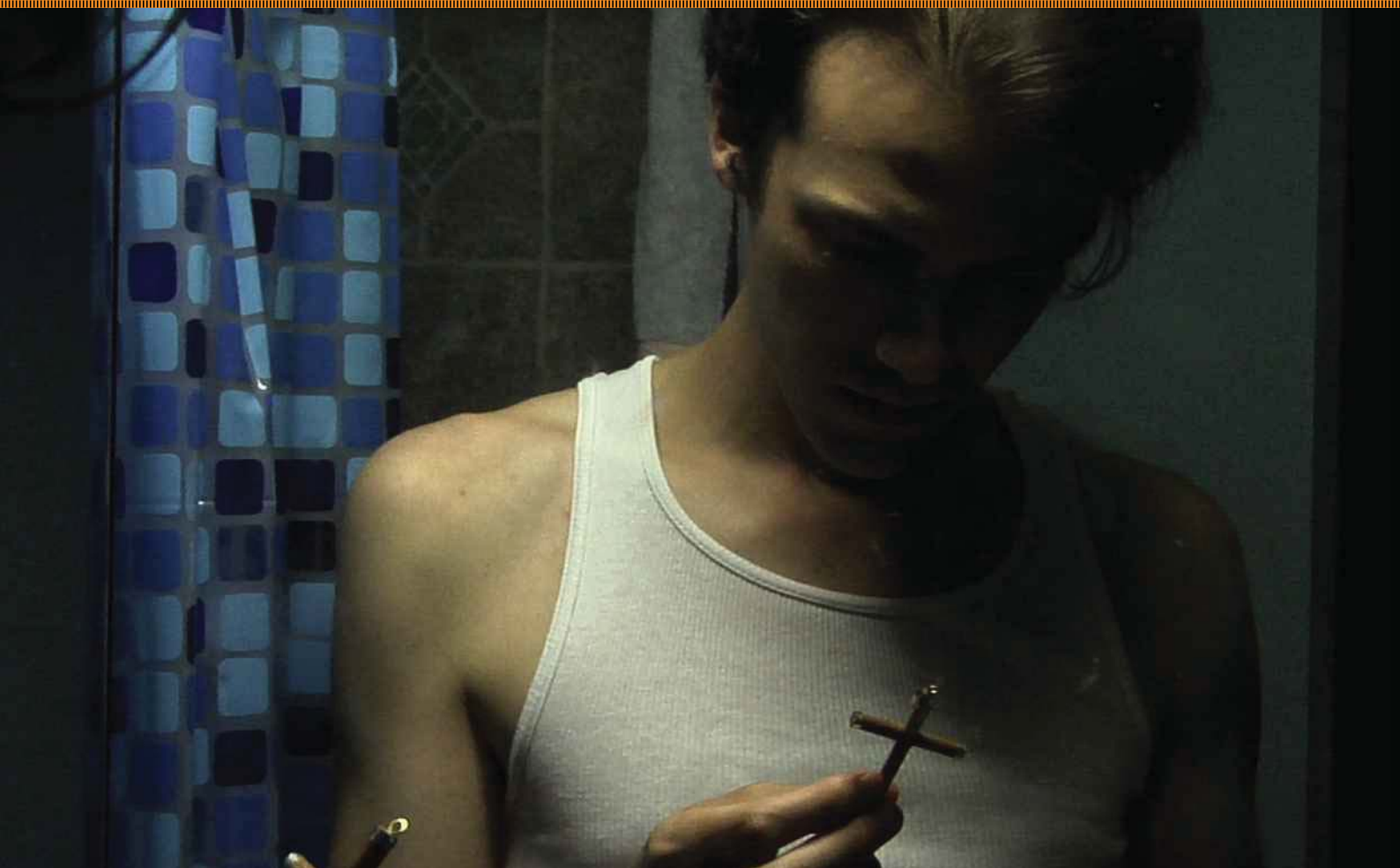
When the movie's main protagonist Jacob (*Zombie Strippers*' Zak Kilberg) starts undergoing hunger-fuelled, physical changes, he discovers that the only thing that temporarily neutralises his condition is human blood.

Naturally, this leads Jacob on a seriously dark and violent journey; one in which he meets and falls for a local bartender girl (US TV show *How I Met Your Mother*'s Maya Parish). But does she prove his salvation, or his next meal? Now that'd be telling...

Writer / director Scott Leberecht opts for realism over fantasy, rarely seen in this kind of flick, piling on the emotional turmoil throughout the low-

key, yet twist and turn-spiked plot. There's the obligatory gore, but proceedings are ultimately driven by the well fleshed-out characters and wholly convincing performances of the actors in their roles.

Midnight Son is an intriguing and intense slice of cerebral horror; the kind that gets under the skin and makes you squirm – right through to its unpredictable finale. **Billy Chainsaw**



PROCEEDINGS ARE ULTIMATELY DRIVEN BY THE FLESHED-OUT CHARACTERS AND CONVINCING PERFORMANCES



**MORE DVDS
THIS WAY!**

DVD PREVIEW

CLAUSTROPHOBIA

A little click and the lock's on me

OUT NOW

YOU KNOW HOW IT GOES... YOU go out for a night's partying after you move into a new flat, then wake up handcuffed to a bed in a stone cell, held prisoner by a masked assailant who drains your blood with a syringe. You don't? Just us, then. But who is this mysterious captor – the creepy building supervisor? A neighbour? A Peeping Tom...? This Dutch film is smarter than your average exploitation flick, and director Bobby Boermans keeps the twists and turns coming thick and fast while Carolen Spoor plays the victim, Eva, with affecting innocence. But the real surprise is how our feelings about the mystery man in the mask are subtly manipulated. Cool, confusing and proper creepy.



HOLY MOTORS

He comes and goes, he comes and goes...

OUT NOW

IF YOU LIKE A LINEAR NARRATIVE,

clear plot exposition and the warm glow of knowing what the hell is going on, *Holy Motors* is not a film for you. This wantonly odd outing from Leos Carax charts a series of appointments in the life of Monsieur Oscar (Denis Lavant). But aside from this simple premise, nothing else makes sense. For each appointment, Monsieur Oscar assumes a different character, each as diverse and disconnected from the other as it's possible to be: assassin, beggar, model, captain of industry... it really is a head-fuck. Monsieur Oscar is driven from one appointment to the next in his limo, the rear of which is Tardis-like in its capacity for storing all the paraphernalia he needs to switch from one persona to the next. This is not gratuitous surrealism or indulgent auteurism; there's a purpose to Monsieur Oscar's transformations and appointments, even if his 'work' makes no sense at all. The oddest film you'll buy this year. With added Kylie.



THE BLOODY JUDGE

She's got a wart!

OUT NOW

YAY, IT'S A 1970s BIOPIIC OF

England's most notorious upholder of law and order! It's 1685, and the ineffectual James II is on the throne. But for how long? To suppress the King's opponents and have a jolly time 'examining' busty wenches for physical signs of their transgressions, Lord Chief Justice George Jeffreys (Christopher

Lee) is handing out harsh justice to rebels and heretics. Director Jess Franco plays fast and loose with historical facts, preferring to focus his attention on some good old 17th century tits'n'ass – especially Maria Rohm, who becomes an unlikely love interest for the judge with the bloody hands. A colourful evocation of violent times, when righteousness and sin were hard to tell apart – and with lashings, literally, of torture, torment and shenanigans of all kinds under the guise of a moral crusade – this is a horrible history indeed.

ED HARDY: TATTOO THE WORLD

The star with the Hardy tattoo

OUT NOW

LOVE IT OR HATE IT, INK IS BIG

business – and in the tattoo universe there's none bigger than Ed Hardy. This documentary by Emiko Mori charts Hardy's rise from alt.culture and art school to bringing tattoos to the mainstream. A devoted art historian and

dedicated traveller, Hardy brings those influences to bear on his work, making his designs popular and sought after pieces of art in their own right. That 'Ed Hardy' is now a global brand does not detract from his profound influence on body art. And he has legions of celebrity customers to prove it.



REAL **HORROR** SHOW!



THIS
MONTH:
COMMUNITY

BILLY CHAINSAW

All the latest news from *Bizarre's* free film club, CUT!

“ Even though it was cold enough to freeze a witch's tits off outside, the temperature inside CUT!s regular screening haunt – London's Horse Hospital – was hotter than Satan's armpit last month. But it wasn't because we had the heating on full blast, no sirree – said heat was generated by the assembled film freaks gagging for the lights to go out and the film to start. Hey, that's how we roll at CUT!

“But I'm getting ahead of myself here, not taking into consideration that you may be a newcomer to the pages of the greatest alternative read on the planet – *Bizarre*. So... CUT! is the *Bizarre* film club that I organise and host once a month in the creepy, vaguely dungeon-esque confines of London's Horse Hospital – which, in Victorian times, is where poorly gee-gees were sent to be operated on. Hence it has cobble-stoned floors with built-in gullies for injured or dying nags' blood to drain. Perfect for screening the

scariest, weirdest, most violent, and downright arty movies doing the rounds, every one an exclusive preview of a yet-to-be released flick. Plus, to help create the ambience of sitting in a huge living room with a bunch of your mates watching films on a screen bigger than any TV, we throw in a free beer or soft drink. A free film and a free gargle, that's gotta be an offer you can't refuse!

“Now, on with the show... set on a no-go English housing estate, *Community* is a terrifying, tension-packed slice of hoodie-horror with a gloriously dark twist. Just how we like it at CUT!

“First time writer / director Jason Ford evidently knows that having a bunch of hoodlums stabbing people simply isn't enough to satisfy the hardcore horror hounds these days because, while there's plenty of violence on display, he's also thrown some freaky elements into the mix – which can't be mentioned here as we don't do 'spoilers'. Anyway...

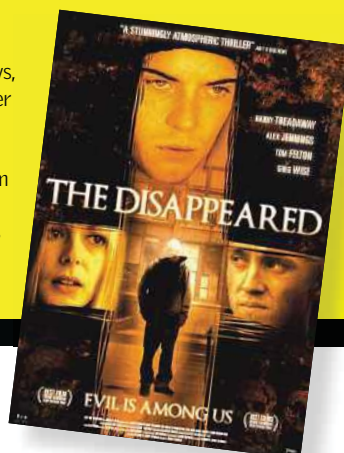
when two student filmmakers show up to make a documentary about the abuse and disappearances associated with the estate, they're greeting by a bunch of youngsters that would be well at home in both *Lord Of The Flies* and *Village Of The Damned*. The kids' animal torture and mutilation prove tame, however, when compared to the drug-fuelled, all-out visceral nastiness that follows – all spearheaded by a psycho cross-dresser who comes on like the ugly sister of *The Silence Of The Lambs'* Buffalo Bill. The end result is a crazy-assed flick that gets the mix of social commentary and exploitation bang on the money – and makes for seriously uncomfortable viewing.

Community is released 25 Feb on DVD

”

IF YOU LIKE **COMMUNITY** YOU MIGHT LIKE **THE DISAPPEARED (2008)**

Set on a bleak, London council estate overrun with marauding chavs, the flick focuses on a 17-year-old loner who's blamed for his younger brother's disappearance, and subsequently institutionalised. After he returns home to live with his alcoholic dad, the troubled teen becomes plagued by nightmares, voices and visions emanating from his 'missing-presumed-dead' sibling. Although shit-scared, the kid's convinced that he's receiving 'messages' that will reveal his sibling's fate. He needs to act fast, though, because his irrational behaviour threatens to put him back in the loony bin. Gritty. Grotty. Chilling.



WHO'S THIS?

Billy Chainsaw is *Bizarre's* Film And DVD Editor, and he also runs our regular FREE film club in London, CUT! (cast your eyes right to see what sick treats Billy has in store at the next screening).

BIZARRE presents

A FREE
MONTHLY
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WHEN?

THURS 21 MARCH 2013
7.30PM - 10.30PM
(FILM STARTS AT 8PM SHARP)

WHERE?

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NEAREST TUBE RUSSELL SQUARE

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THERE WILL BE SEATS ON THE NIGHT, BUT THESE
WILL BE ALLOCATED ON A FIRST COME,
FIRST SERVED BASIS. **DON'T BE LATE!**

HOSTED BY
BILLY CHAINSAW
BIZARRE FILM EDITOR

"A SHARP, INDIE
GOREFEST!"



**"ONE OF THE BEST HORROR FILM DEBUTS SINCE
SAM RAIMI UNLEASHED THE EVIL DEAD"**
COREY MITCHELL, BLOODY DISGUSTING.COM

**I DIDN'T COME
HERE TO DIE**

A BRADLEY SCOTT SULLIVAN FILM

**VOLUNTEER WORK
CAN BE A KILLER**

★★★★★
"A GOREFEST"
BILLY CHAINSAW, BIZARRE

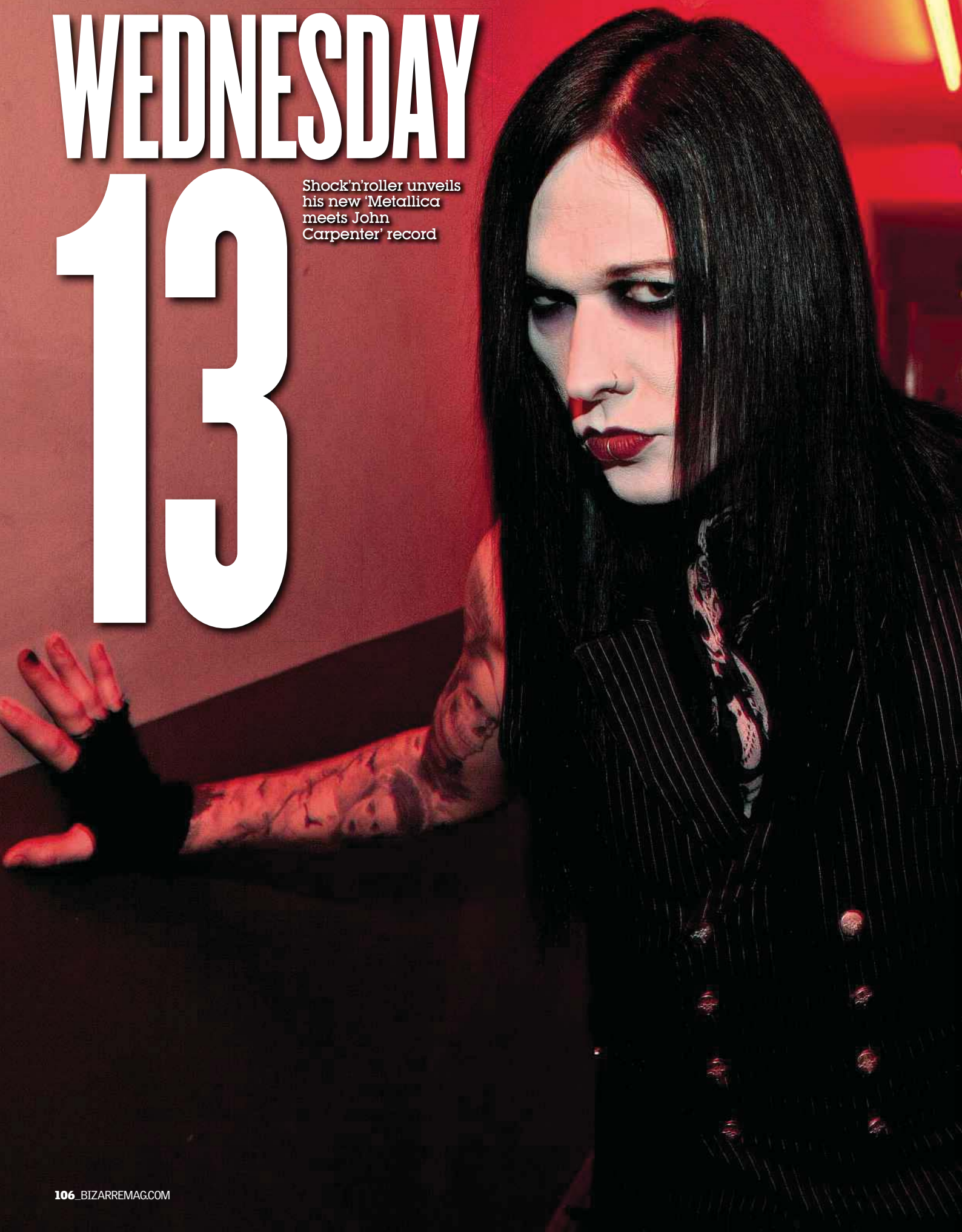
DVD
RELEASE DATE:
15 MARCH
**SEE IT FIRST
AT CUT!**



SEE BIZARRE'S FACEBOOK PAGE FOR MORE DETAILS

WEDNESDAY 13

Shock'n'roller unveils
his new 'Metallica
meets John
Carpenter' record



THE DIXIE DEAD



OUT NOW

The shock-rocker's latest grave-robbing delights include synth instrumental outros, *Lost Boy*-style vampires ('Blood Sucker'), and, best of all, a nod to *Flash Gordon*'s well-groomed nemesis Ming ('Hail Ming'). But while the B-movie ghoulishness is still in check, the music pounds harder. On 'Get Your Grave On', chainsaw guitars shred through zombie flesh, while 'Curse The Living' packs a killer riff that smacks of thrash demigods Testament.

Stephen Daultrey

Q&A WEDNESDAY 13

The new album *The Dixie Dead* is pretty heavy...

It's one of the heaviest things I've ever put out. If my last album *Calling All Corpses* (2011) was my Ramones record, then this one is like my Metallica record.

Nice! But which era of Metallica are we talking here?

Haha, well I don't mean it *sounds* like Metallica, I'm just using it as a comparison. The tracks still sound like Wednesday 13, but with more life.

What made you go heavier?

I don't like putting out the same record every time. ...*Corpses* had a '1-2-3-4' vibe, in the spirit of The Ramones. But I listen to many different things now. When I started out it was punk, Kiss and Alice Cooper. Now my favourite bands include stuff like Killing Joke, and that shines through.

Thematically you've still got the bloodsuckers and graveyards. It's a real B-movie horror record, right?

Oh yeah, it's 100 per cent horror. It's like a 1980s John Carpenter film. It's got synths in the intro and at the end, and that's mainly referencing the soundtrack stuff Carpenter did for *The Thing* and *Halloween*. Those sounds he created made me feel weird as a kid, and still do. We've also made the packaging look like an early 1980s

It's a while ago now, but what did you think about the *Freddy Vs Jason* film?

I was excited because my band was on the soundtrack, but other than that I thought it was a piece of shit!

What was the first horror film you remember seeing as a kid?

It was the original *Creepshow* anthology (1982). I remember my parents wouldn't let me watch it, but I stayed up late one night and saw it with my older brother. Just knowing I wasn't supposed to watch it made it scary, even though none of it's actually creepy at all. My favourite part was the Ted Danson and Lesley Nielsen story where people get buried out at sea and then come back. That scared me, especially the way they talked and the colours and all that.

You're the frontman for Murderdolls, and have other bands like Bourbon Crow and Gunfire 76. Is that to stop you from getting pigeonholed as a horror rocker?

Yeah, I was writing so much stuff and wanted an outlet to do something that wasn't just singing about zombies 24/7. But my last 'off-project' was in 2009 with Gunfire. Now I'm full throttle into Wednesday 13 and feel like I'm making my best ever stuff. 2013 is going to be my year to shine.

"I COLLECTED GI JOE AND MONSTER ACTION FIGURES"

horror film. Really, I think this record is different to anything I've done before and it will surprise people, but not in a way that it's like, 'Oh man, this sucks.'

Why do you think B-movie horror and punk music go so uncannily well together?

For me, it just makes sense. When I was young I collected GI Joe and monster action figures, and I'd make my GI Joes break into Frankenstein's castle. Then I discovered music and saw Alice Cooper, and he's like a horror movie on stage. That set it up for me.

What's your favourite horror movie soundtrack of all time?

It's probably *Halloween 2*, which I still have on vinyl from when I was a kid. It's just creepy. The first two *Halloween* films were amazing and can't be touched, but all the 1980s horror icons have become these rockstars which aren't scary any more. Freddy Krueger, Michael Myers and Jason Voorhees – they're like Slash now! I'm glad to have grown up in a time when we didn't have the internet showing pictures and spoiling absolutely everything.

Can you see yourself returning to these projects?

Murderdolls are on the backburner for who knows, probably forever. My next big plan is to write and direct my first horror film. I'm directing all the videos for the new record to prepare for it. I'm gonna model myself after Ed Wood Jr, who's a hero of mine.

Will you star in it as well?

If I do, it will be a funny cameo where I'm some guy getting his head chopped off!

Have you devised a plot for it already, or is it a secret?

One of the stories I'm thinking about is the one in the title track of the new album so, as of now, it's tentatively called *Dixie Dead The Movie*.

Does that mean it will feature The Dixie Chicks as zombies?

Haha, no! It's gonna be cool. I also know Rob Zombie has got his own thing going, and I'm a big fan of his music and movies, but I think mine is going to be a lot more low-budget, kind of like (1970s blaxploitation films) *Shaft* and *Dolemite* meets Ed Wood, with my style on top of it. If you can imagine that!

MORE NEW SHIT!

Other Bizarre must-hears

THE HOWLING HEX

THE BEST OF...



OUT NOW

Formed by Royal Trux's Neil Hagerty, THH produce a mental free-garage racket that's

all squelchy *oom-pah-pah* guitar and bouncy fairground riffs. Hagerty's croonings come off like a deranged, farmyard incarnation of Les Claypool, who mews words while standing in the middle of a field chasing pesky corn-robbing varmints with a pitchfork. That's how mental this album is.

ICEAGE

YOU'RE NOTHING



OUT NOW

Barely out of their teens, Danish post-punkers would've been minus-15-years-old

in 1979, but they thrash guitar like Factory's Tony Wilson is back, courting them with record contracts and pots of blood. This is a beautifully contrived and chaotic mess of super-stylish yet possessed riffing and strained vocals that sound like the singer could suffer a brain haemorrhage at any moment.

COMBICHRIST

NO REDEMPTION



OUT NOW

Sweet mercy, just how angry do techno-metal-industrialists Combichrist sound

here? Veering far less on the ravey EBM side, *No Redemption* is a full-on, metal-plated assault of unbridled rage. It's also the soundtrack to the new *DmC: Devil May Cry* videogame, probably written to help you slice up a load of shitty demons. And it works!

DARKTHRONE

THE UNDERGROUND RESISTANCE



25 FEBRUARY

Upon hearing Greek nasties Satan's Wrath recently, we remarked that it was like

nothing after 1987 ever happened. The same is even truer of Darkthrone's 15th studio opus. Formed in 1986, Norway's premier screamers deliver a punky pastiche of black metal prototyping and operatic NWOBHM blasts, filtered through production so dank the studio must've been crawling with medieval rats.

MUSIC

THE **BEST NEW SOUNDS**
REVERBERATING TOWARDS YOU

NICK CAVE AND THE BAD SEEDS

Australian maestros raise the sky with stirring new album



Q&A WARREN ELLIS - INSTRUMENTALIST

PUSH THE SKY AWAY



OUT NOW

It's not every time that you can lavish a Bad Seeds release with such adjectives as 'tender', 'gentle' and (*strewth!*) 'warm', but the 15th studio outing from Nick Cave's oft-morose troubadours has a centre as succulent and soft as a Michelin star aperitif. Cave's meandering poetry mixes suggestiveness, biblical grit and pop culture across Warren Ellis' rich, rolling, reverb-heavy loops. From the soulful, oceanic imagery of 'Wide Lovely Eyes' to the intoxicating splendour of 'Higgs Boson Blues', this album has less filler than a giant hole.

Stephen Daultrey

We're obsessed with the fact that the Bad Seeds are the best dressed band in rock history. Do you agree?

That's a fair assessment. Other people seem to change their clothes regularly and follow fashion, which is always a mistake. There's something ageless and impressive about dressing in a good suit. If you look at photos of old jazz or blues bands, and Dixieland artists, they're always wearing a clean-cut suit and looking smart. Besides, I also think everyone in the band just likes to dress up. It gives us a sense of occasion.

Do suit tailors fall over themselves to dress you?

No, and instrument makers aren't approaching us either. I don't know why. It's probably just as well...

Both yourself and Nick Cave have iconic facial hair. What inspired you to grow a beard?

It was a prostitute's comment in Amsterdam about Texan musician Josh T Pearson. She said to him, "You look amazing," and I took a look, and I said, "Wow, you're so right!" It was as simple as that. But maybe I won't have this beard much longer.

You might shave it off?

Yeah, or maybe change it.

Your new record, *Push The Sky Away*, is beautiful and tender, with Nick Cave's baritone preaching

living recording experience, so we weren't returning to city hotels at the end of the day and getting lost in taxis. The sense of the place is captured in both the mood and the approach. It's a beautiful old farmhouse that belonged to a music critic who passed away and left what I think is the biggest vinyl collection of classical music outside the Vatican. There are more than 180,000 records 'bookshelved' into its walls. Napoleon originally had the place built to dye French military uniforms. There's a story that he designed the uniforms to be red with gold braids down the side. But after they'd dyed many tens of thousands of them, everyone realised the soldiers couldn't camouflage themselves in the forests. They were useless!

So Napoleon, military genius, made the schoolboy error of designing bright red army uniforms? Plank.

Yes, that's pretty much it.

As well as the Bad Seeds and Grinderman, you've written film soundtracks with Nick Cave for *The Proposition*, *The Road* and *Lawless*. You guys must get on well?

There's a real sense of trust. With Nick, I feel encouraged to take things as far as I want and I like taking risks when I go into the studio with him and the Bad Seeds. I'm actually lucky to feel

"I FEEL ENCOURAGED TO TAKE THINGS AS FAR AS I WANT"

rumbling across delicate loops. It's very different to the last record *Dig, Lazarus, Dig!!!*, which was garage-sounding and abrasive.

I've lived with it for four months now and I've yet to hear any cracks in it, so that's a good sign. There are still things that constantly surprise me about it.

What kind of surprises?

Just in the way it sounds, and the shape of it. Sonically, it's very different to anything I've been involved in with the Bad Seeds before. It's good that we've moved away from the direction of the last few albums, as well as what we've been doing in Grinderman (Bad Seeds side-project). We tried to take the material to unfamiliar places without it sounding like a horrible experiment.

Nick Cave rhymes Hannah Montana with African savanna on 'Higgs Boson Blues', which is pretty nifty.

Yeah, that's up there with Nick's all-time great rhymes.

Did recording in a 19th century mansion in Saint-Remy-de-Provence influence the music?

It totally influenced it, and it's also the first time I'd ever been involved in a

comfortable to do that with all the groups I work with. I can make horrible moves, but they can sometimes lead to really good things.

Do you enjoy composing the soundtracks?

It was especially exciting to work on *The Proposition* because we had to barrel in there and churn everything out in just four days. It was fearless and exciting, and what came out was a gift. But with each soundtrack, it becomes challenging trying not to let the music be just gloom stuck on a film. It's important the music brings something unique to each image.

You previously played with David McComb, of Australian band The Triffids (which, incidentally, is the name of our lovely editor). McComb sounded like a real talent, but sadly passed away in 1999, aged just 36...

Yes, and Bad Seeds bassist Martyn was a member of The Triffids. David McComb was somebody who set his bar really high, and wrote worldly songs at a really young age. They were expansive and ambitious songs. It was a terrible loss. I'm 47 now and you suddenly realise how young he was.

THE GLASSHOUSE

Invitation to a terror-filled dinner party with an Einstürzende Neubauten legend

THE GLASSHOUSE



OUT ON DVD NOW

US artist Danielle de Picciotto both wrote and shot

The Glasshouse,

a silent autobiographical film about a dinner party that exploded in nastiness the night before Danielle escaped to Berlin. With a haunting, mesmeric score by Danielle's husband, Alexander Hacke (of German industrial supremos Einstürzende Neubauten) this DVD features five live performances of the film, each resplendent with dark, Lynchian imagery, warped sonic atmospherics, and a varying line-up of guest musicians who each add their own unique and often strange experimentalism to the proceedings. It's a delight to the ears and eyes.

Stephen Daultrey

Q&A DANIELLE DE PICCIOTTO & ALEXANDER HACKE

What is *The Glasshouse* about?

Danielle: It is the story of my last evening in the US before I moved to Germany in 1987. NYC in the 1980s was extremely dangerous, and I'd had enough of it. Every day somebody would be shot, raped or mugged, and a friend at CNN told me that there were 375 murders per day. The setting for this film is a dinner that I was invited to, and which turned into a nightmare. It became a personal symbol of what I was leaving behind. The atmosphere of terror during that night is something I can only compare to the global ambience since 9/11. It has brought me to think a lot about what fear is and its consequences.

A lot of the imagery is haunting and fairy tale-esque. Can you talk about your inspirations, Danielle?

Danielle: The film is mainly made up of Super 8 images that I started shooting in the 1980s. I always try to create atmospheres that turn the soul inside out; the dark and hidden sides of our life, they are the ones that reveal our true identity. I am predominately influenced by writers, such as Edgar Allan Poe, Carson McCullers, Cormack McCarthy and HP Lovecraft.

Alexander, how challenging was it to write a score for Danielle's film, what did you strive to achieve?

further than I could within the structure of a well-established group.

There are many unique musical collaborations on the DVD, such as The Nihilist Spasm Band and Algis Kizys, whose former group Swans made one of the best albums of 2012. How did these come about?

Alexander: Algis is one of my oldest and best friends and we have collaborated in the past, although he hasn't played with the Swans for over 20 years. All our collaborators are special people. What we get from them is their unique approach, their very own take on the piece.

How much did each of the guest musicians affect the ambience of their respective shows?

Danielle: We chose guest musicians that either play unusual instruments or have unusual ways of playing instruments. It is about creating magic through unexpected results, and letting coincidence and clashes define the outcome. We never tell people what to do, they prepare their part with a basic track that we sent them via email and we usually only have one rehearsal before the show. In this manner we ensure that the outcome is always unexpected for everyone involved. In a way they are choreographed improvisations.

"WE CHOSE MUSICIANS THAT HAVE UNUSUAL WAYS"

Alexander: The aim was to create an architectural space, just like you'd imagine with a 'glasshouse'. It was necessary to mark the confines of the aural stage, where the story is told and where there is enough room for the characters to introduce themselves and develop. And by this I do not mean *only* the characters within the tale, but also the performing musicians themselves, whose contributions need a platform and a basic atmosphere to unfold upon.

Was writing and performing this score very different to your work in Einstürzende Neubauten?

Alexander: Working with my wonderful wife will always be different to working with a bunch of dirty old men! I'm joking, of course! There are parallels in the conceptual clarity of both Danielle's and Blixa's (Bargeld, vocals / guitar, Einstürzende Neubauten) vision, and neither situation could be described as a straightforward improvisation or a 'jam'. The unique voice and flavour of Einstürzende Neubauten is not always a liberating factor, though. In working with Danielle, I can take things a lot

One of the standout moments for me is Steve Forker's beautiful trumpet solo in Denver...

Danielle: We met Steve Forker in 2011. We were presenting my Berlin Memoirs *The History Of Transgression* in the US doing multimedia-reading performances of my stories. Steve came backstage after our show in Denver and gave me a CD of his work. He also invited us to a wonderful breakfast and we became friends. He is a great personality and musician.

Will you tour the show in the UK?

Danielle: We would love to, and are waiting for offers!

Do the two of you have plans for more collaborations in the future?

Danielle: Alexander and I have been creating audio / visual performances since 2001, conceiving a new one every two years. Our themes are usually based on literature. We will hopefully be performing *The Glasshouse* a little longer, but are preparing a new presentation based on my upcoming graphic novel *We Are Gypsies Now*, which is out in March 2013.

For more info visit Danielledepicciotto.com

KICK-ASS 2 PRELUDE: HIT-GIRL



Kick-Ass spin-off starring the
sweary little sweetie

MARK MILLAR & JOHN ROMITA JR
OUT NOW



IT'S RATHER cool that our current favourite superhero is an 11-year-old girl who

says "motherfucker", zapps muggers in the balls, and wistfully reminisces about the time her dad taught her CIA torture techniques. It makes our dear old Auntie Den seem a little bit like Mother Theresa in comparison.

Running into the events of the forthcoming *Kick-Ass* movie sequel (out this summer), this spin-off novel finds Hit-Girl – AKA Mindy McCready – teaching fellow crim-kicker Kick-Ass some disturbing new ninja moves in return for some social coaching.

Meanwhile, incarcerated kingpin Ralphie Genovese is attempting to exert control of the city while ridding it of those pesky costumed brats. And Red Mist is up to no good either. A lot to deal with, then...

Packed with Millar's hilarious dialogue ("You don't see Green Lantern having to do this shit," as Kick-Ass' parents make him take out the trash), Hit-Girl's spin-off yarn is fun, funny and fucked-up. But then you already knew it would be. If there's one joke that never wears thin it's seeing our cherubic, wide-eyed little heroine flutter those eyelids while busting in a bad guy's cranium with a giant hammer. KAPOW!

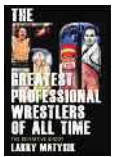
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THE 50 GREATEST PROFESSIONAL WRESTLERS OF ALL TIME: THE DEFINITIVE SHOOT

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OUT 14 MARCH



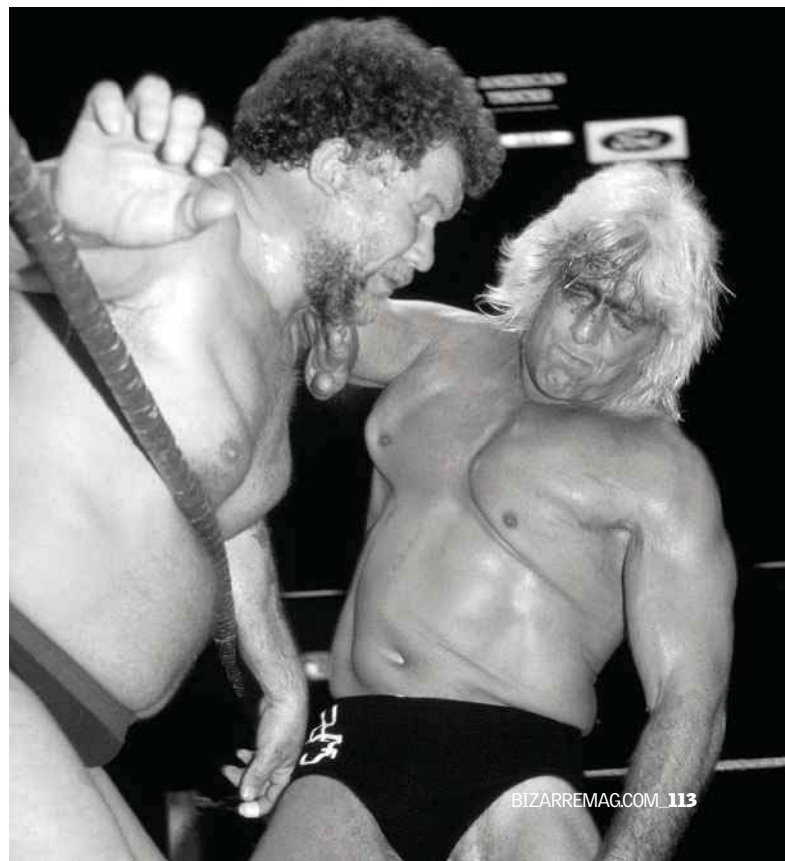
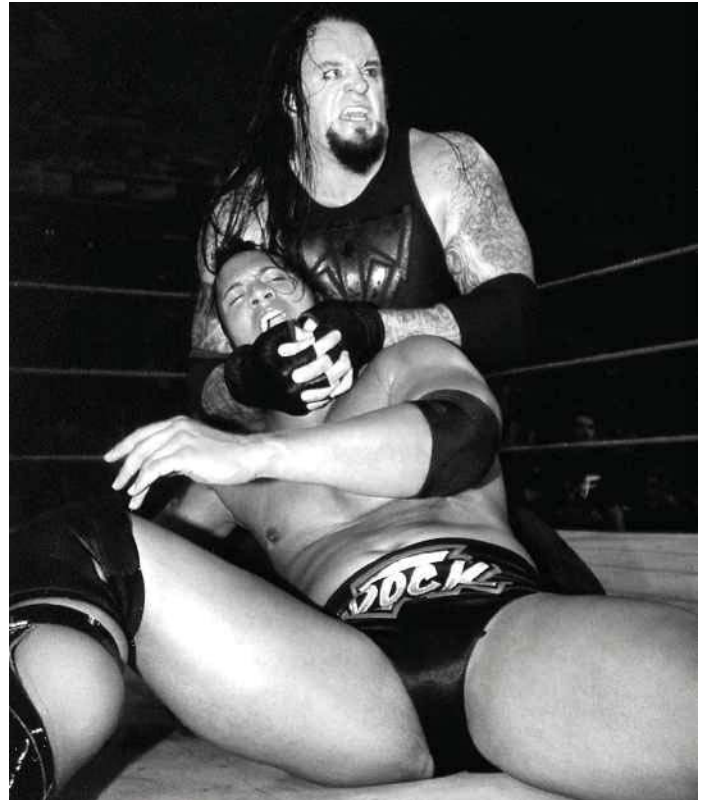
QUITE FRANKLY, there's probably nothing on this planet quite as bonkers as pro wrestling. Even competitive bog snorkelling can't compare to a 'sport' that has provided such ridiculous gimmicks as the Red Rooster, where a Bushwacker contracted a near-fatal disease after years of licking sweaty heads, and where many of its legends have (tragically) passed away from years of muscle-enlarging substance abuse.

By the same token, we don't think a book has ever got the *Bizarre* office quite as embarrassingly excited as this one. "Ooh, ooh, is Roddy Piper in it?" roared Kelsall. "I liked Koko B Ware's

trunks," recalled me. "Where's Bam Bam Bigelow?" enquired Dr Blackthorn. "I once ripped my groin attempting a Macho Man atomic drop on my stuffed Koala when I was 17," offered Broadbent.

Rather than being a mere list, though, author Matysik has conducted full investigative research before reaching his top men, consulting experts and weighing up everything from box office draw to technique. That means you get an intriguing insight into the sport in addition to 50 highly detailed wrestler biographies. For anyone who has ever harboured any interest in WWE, ECW etc, you *must* read this book. For everyone else, you're probably wondering what happened to all the bondage tutorials.

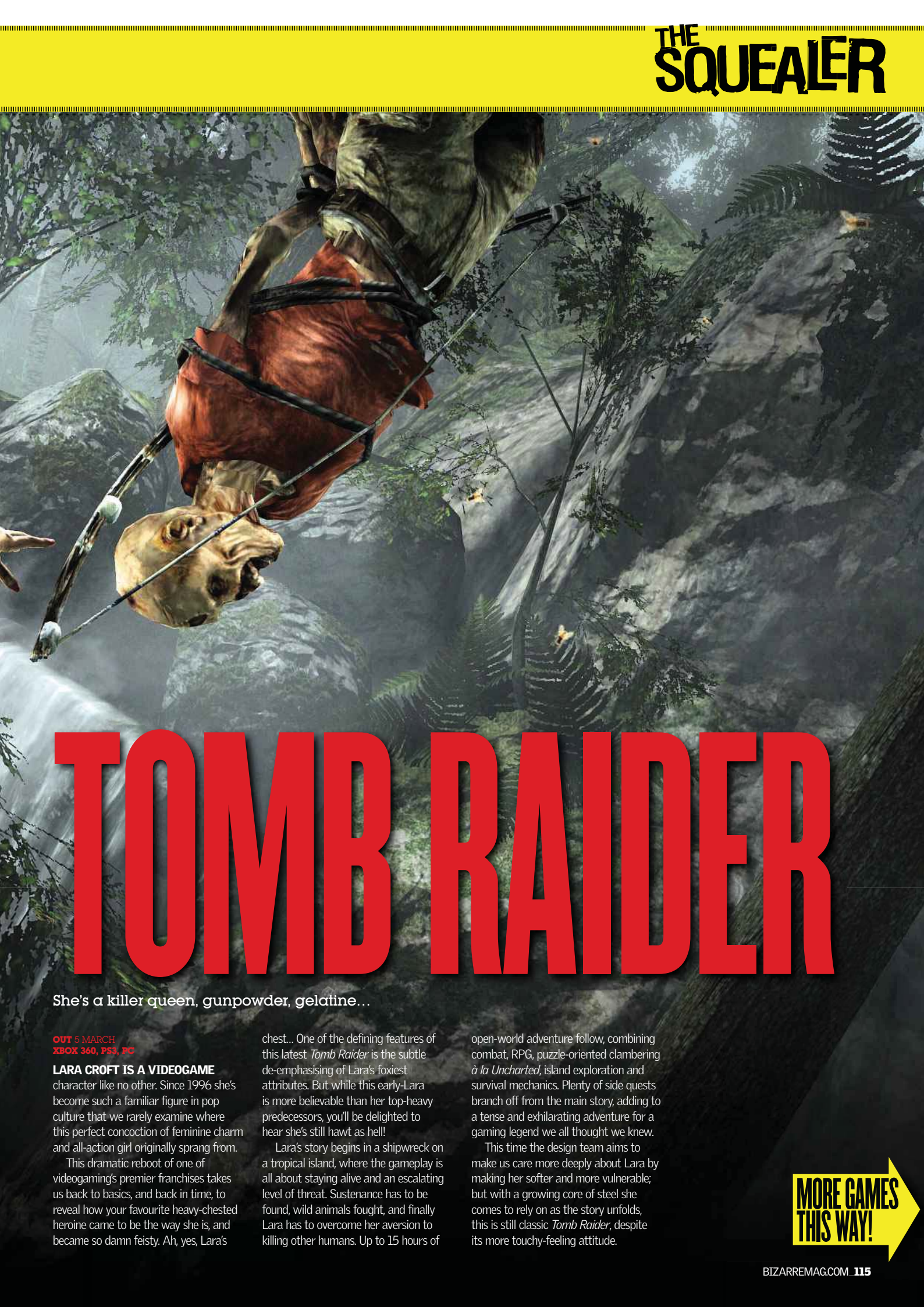
Stephen Daultrey



GAMES PREVIEW

A DRAMATIC
REBOOT OF ONE
OF VIDEOGAMING'S
PREMIER FRANCHISES



A dramatic scene from the game Tomb Raider: Underworld. Lara Croft is hanging upside down from a thick vine, her body suspended in the air. She is wearing her signature red tank top and khaki pants. Her expression is one of intense focus or perhaps a grimace of pain. The background is a lush, misty jungle with towering trees and a waterfall visible on the left. The lighting is dramatic, with sunlight filtering through the canopy.

TOMB RAIDER

She's a killer queen, gunpowder, gelatine...

OUT 5 MARCH
XBOX 360, PS3, PC

LARA CROFT IS A VIDEOGAME character like no other. Since 1996 she's become such a familiar figure in pop culture that we rarely examine where this perfect concoction of feminine charm and all-action girl originally sprang from.

This dramatic reboot of one of videogaming's premier franchises takes us back to basics, and back in time, to reveal how your favourite heavy-chested heroine came to be the way she is, and became so damn feisty. Ah, yes, Lara's

chest... One of the defining features of this latest *Tomb Raider* is the subtle de-emphasising of Lara's foxiest attributes. But while this early-Lara is more believable than her top-heavy predecessors, you'll be delighted to hear she's still hawt as hell!

Lara's story begins in a shipwreck on a tropical island, where the gameplay is all about staying alive and an escalating level of threat. Sustenance has to be found, wild animals fought, and finally Lara has to overcome her aversion to killing other humans. Up to 15 hours of

open-world adventure follow, combining combat, RPG, puzzle-oriented clambering à la *Uncharted*, island exploration and survival mechanics. Plenty of side quests branch off from the main story, adding to a tense and exhilarating adventure for a gaming legend we all thought we knew.

This time the design team aims to make us care more deeply about Lara by making her softer and more vulnerable; but with a growing core of steel she comes to rely on as the story unfolds, this is still classic *Tomb Raider*, despite its more touchy-feeling attitude.

**MORE GAMES
THIS WAY!**

GAMES PREVIEWS

HYPERDIMENSION NEPTUNIA VICTORY

Finish things beautifully with special skills

OUT 15 MARCH PS3

STICK WITH US ON THIS ONE...

In this nutty Japanese role-player you take control of Neptune, the Console Patron Unit (CPU) of the world of Planetptune (whatever that means...), who's pitched against the evil Seven Sages, who plan to eliminate all CPUs from the universe. Got that? If so, can you let *Bizarre* know what the hell is

going on? Despite its brain-melting plot, fans of the *Hyperdimension Neptunia* series can look forward to deeper immersion into the game mythos, along with a refined and faster-paced battle system, more dungeons, and plenty of comedy as Neptune tries to fight her way home. And if you're an iPhone owner, you can download a bonus app that will give you a load of extra gadget-related fun.



SIMCITY

Everybody wants to rule the world

OUT 8 MARCH PC

CAN IT REALLY BE OVER 20 YEARS

since the first *SimCity*? Jeez, our lives are slipping away. Anyhow, the classic city simulation game is back, and it's better equipped to give you total control over your megalomaniacal dreams. More than before, every decision you make as city planner extraordinaire has consequences: focus on heavy industry and your Sims' health will start to suffer while your coffers bulge; green technology costs the tax payers, and creates unemployment. For this new iteration players are now given the option to compete on global or regional leaderboards to make your city the happiest, dirtiest or the richest of all. Better still, new *SimCity* allows your previously-silent people talk to you. How will you respond from your godlike position? Us? We're just looking forward to launching a freakin' space shuttle!



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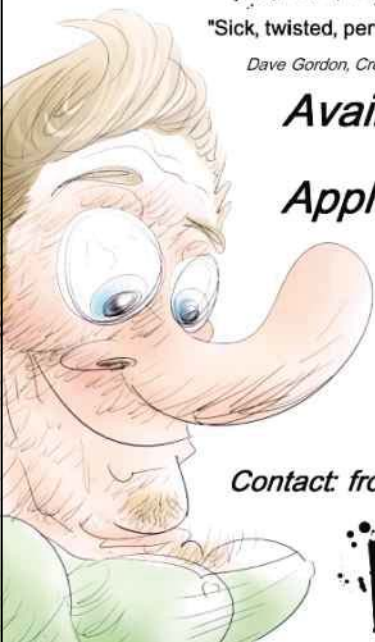
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